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The Harvard Musical Association, according to the first Annual Report of its Directors, made at Cambridge, Aug. 28, 1839, originated as follows:

"A few graduates, members in their time of the little musical club in College, called the "Pierian Sodality," chanced to spend a pleasant hour one day, ["Exhibition," July, 1837,] with their successors in the management and pleasures of the little institution they had left behind them, with the other pleasant things of their Academic course. During the conversation, it occurred to them, that such meetings might be statedly repeated with some profit, and embrace all who could be found interested enough to come together once a year, and renew the musical memories of College, under the old name and amid the old scenes. The thought met favor, and a Committee was raised to call a meeting of the past and present members, and report on the expediency, and best mode of organizing a general Association. That meeting was held at Harvard University, on the following Commencement day, [Aug. 30, 1837,] when a Report was read and an Association formed."

The Report, since published, entered very fully into the suggestions of the occasion, and set forth various motives and useful objects for a permanent union of the past and present members of the "Sodality."

Experience has proved that our Library is the most immediately practicable of the objects which the Association has proposed to itself, and accordingly the chief fruits of our growing Fund are now expended upon that.

The rapid increase of the Library has rendered this new Catalogue necessary, which has been arranged upon the simplest plan, more with a view to show in what our Library is deficient, than as boasting of what we already possess.

Feb. 16, 1857.

Harvard Musical Association.

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Don Giovanni. (Score.) Leipzig.

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(Presented by Dr. F. E. Oliver.)

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Cramer's Piano Method.	Boston Melodeon. 3 vols.
Hunten's " "	Classic Glee Book.
Muller's Method for Piano. Revised by Knorr. In two Parts.	Heuberer's Euphonia. Glees & Part-songs.
Richardson's New Method for Piano.	Paine's Jenny Lind Glee Book.
Bertini's 25 Studies, (Op. 29.)	White & Gould's Tyrolean Lyre.
" Self-teaching Catechism.	The Western Bell.
Czerny's Letters to a Young Lady.	Jarvis's Young Folks' Glee Book.
Knorr's Methodical Guide for Teachers.	Mrs. Dana's Northern Harp.
Oliver's Practical Text Book.	" Southern Harp.
Five Thousand Musical Terms.	Beauties of Caledonia.
Moore's Encyclopedia of Music.	One Hundred Comic Songs.
The Tuner's Guide.	" Songs of Scotland.
Boston Collection of Instrumental Music.	" Songs of Ireland.
The Home Circle. A Coll. of Marches, Waltzes, &c.	Jullien's Music for the Million.
Schneider's Practical Organ School.	" Farewell Album.
Zundel's 250 Easy Voluntaries, &c.	Masonic Harp and Monitor.
" Amateur Organist.	Zeuner's Ancient Lyre.
" Melodeon Instructor.	Taylor's Celestina.—Taylor's Chime.
American School for Melodeon.	" Golden Lyre. " Song Festival.
Bochsa's Instruction for the Harp.	White's Church Melodist.
Carcassi's Method for Guitar.	Barnes's Congregational Harp.
Feder's Guitar Method.	Continental Harmony.
Fessenden's Modern School for Violin.	National Lyre.
May's Operatic Violin Instruction Book.	Bird's Singing School Companion.
Mazas' Violin Method.	Boston Academy's Collection of Choruses.
Berbiguier's Method for Flute.	Webb's Cantica Ecclesiastica.
Wragg's Flute Preceptor.	White & Gould's Harmonia Sacra.
Romberg's Violoncello School.	" " Sacred Chorus Book.
	Kreissmann's Anthems.
	Taylor's Choral Anthems.

THE

NEW ORLEANS FREE LIBRARY.

B1567

Wm Smith Esq. Aug. 7. 1867.

Hon. Edward Everett,
Boston

CORRESPONDENCE.

New Orleans, March 9, 1847.

To the Hon. A. D. Crossman, Mayor of the City of New Orleans

Sir,—I have the honor to inform you that in a few days my very valuable and extensive private Library will be presented to the City for the purpose of putting into operation, immediately, a Free Public Library.

New Orleans will be indebted for this act of munificence to the philanthropy of Alvarez Fisk, Esq., a distinguished citizen of Natchez, who has very promptly co-operated with me in carrying out my long cherished wishes on this subject.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, yours,

BENJAMIN F. FRENCH.

Mayoralty of New Orleans, 10th March, 1847.

To the Honorable President and Members of the Council of Municipality No. Two.

Gentlemen,—It is with an unusual degree of pleasure that I have the honor of transmitting to your honorable body a copy of a letter addressed by Alvarez Fisk, Esq., to B. F. French, Esq., in relation to the purchase and donation of the large and valuable Library of the latter gentleman by the former, and its presentation to the City of New Orleans. Also, a copy of a letter from Mr. French to me, in relation to said Library, and my reply, accepting in behalf of the City this valuable donation.

The suggestions of Mr. French are replete with sound views, and if adhered to, will, with the foundation laid through the generous act of Mr. Fisk, lead to the establishment of a free public Library, that will be the pride of our State, and admiration of the numerous strangers visiting our City. Such a noble institution will cause, more promptly, the great reform of our youth, by withdrawing them from the evil paths constantly besetting them, and prepare and qualify them for the highest station in our country, where they may keep the honors and distinctions which alone can be attained through such a channel—and while they offer their gratitude to the generous benefactor of this institution, they will not forget to accord to you the merit of having nobly seconded his views by your prompt aid.

With great respect, I am, gentlemen, your ob't serv't,

A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

Natchez, March 9th, 1847.

Benjamin Franklin French, Esq.

My Dear Sir,—The motive which actuated me in the purchase of your valuable and extensive Library, containing many rare works, was that it might be preserved to the City of New Orleans (with which place I have been connected in a commercial way for a great number of years) and also to carry into effect the object of my late brother's bequest of establishing a public Library for the benefit of the reading community, and to afford a pleasant resort to the numerous strangers who visit that great and growing commercial metropolis, from every quarter of the world.

That this purpose may be promptly commenced, and ultimately extended, until it shall become, in some degree, commensurate with the resources and magnitude of its population, I now embrace the occasion which this purpose presents, of tendering the entire Library to that City, and of assuring you of the very great pleasure I derive in making you the organ of communication, to its Mayor and Aldermen; knowing, as

I do, the deep interest you take in founding and carrying out an enterprise of this nature, so connected with the intellectual and commercial, as well as classical and scientific reputation of that great City; and entertaining the hope that the advantage of your great experience and travels in Europe, as well as scholastic attainments, will be cheerfully bestowed, in systematizing and furthering this undertaking, and placing the Library in a position for immediate use, I am, very truly, respectfully your friend and humble servant,

ALVAREZ FISK.

New Orleans, March 10, 1847.

Sir,—Having long been solicitous that my rare and extensive collection of books should be rendered serviceable in the cause of literature and science, and that New Orleans, so far behind her sister cities, in the cultivation of letters, and in the establishment of public Libraries, should have the benefit of it, I am pleased to announce to you that my wishes can now be gratified. The bequest of the late Abijah Fisk, Esq., a distinguished merchant of this City, contemplating the establishment of a free public Library, for the use of the citizens of this great and growing commercial emporium, and the numerous strangers who annually visit it from every part of the world, has enabled me, through his brother Alvarez Fisk, Esq., of Natchez, to consummate my long cherished desire, and I am honored with a letter from him, appointing me the organ of communicating his wishes and presenting to the City of New Orleans, in his name, which I now have the honor to do, my large and valuable library of books, for this purpose.*

In order, therefore, that the object of this useful and greatly needed institution should be fully carried out, and not meet with the fate of others so often attempted in this city, within the last half century, the *donor* of this practical and useful

*No Catalogue of this library has yet been published, but it is supposed to contain over six thousand volumes of rare and costly works.

collection of books, in the ancient and modern languages, adapted by its variety to the wants of the population of our city, as well as being rich in works relating to history, natural and physical science, commerce, finance, statistics, biography, voyages, travels, &c. &c., expects from the city, accepting this gift, *that you will recommend*, to each of the councils of the municipalities to appropriate at least five hundred dollars per annum, and to the city of Lafayette a like sum, to be laid out annually in the purchase of books, as well as to defray the current expenses of keeping it open, for *reference and consultation free of charge*, to the citizens of both cities.

That the councils of each municipality shall annually elect three persons, *resident citizens*, to compose a board of managers, whose duties will be to purchase books, elect a librarian, superintend its fiscal concerns, pass by-laws and regulations for its government, and publish on the third Monday in January of every year, a report of its condition. The Mayors and Recorders of both cities to be ex-officio members of the board of managers.

That the commissioners of the general sinking fund, to whom is now confided the care and revenue of the property bequeathed by the late Abijah Fisk, Esq., for a library building, will cause as many of the rooms in the second story of said building, with as little delay as possible, to be appropriately fitted up, with book cases, in the gothic style, out of the funds in their hands, and apply any surplus remaining, together with the rents of any portion of the building, to be expended in the purchase of books, under the direction and superintendence of the board of managers.

I would here respectfully remark, before closing this communication, that the present time appears to be the most auspicious that could have been selected, for the successful establishment of a public Library in this city, for both a beautiful building and a splendid collection of books have been gratuitously provided for it, by two liberal and enlightened individuals, which, under ordinary circumstances, and in the usual mode, would have taken many years to have accomplished.

It cannot be denied that without such institutions among us, with its rapidly increasing population, and its other improve-

ments, this city can never attain to any greatness that gives power and influence, or commands respect.

But let this Library once begin to shed its genial rays upon us, and other literary and scientific institutions will rise into existence. To make this city a desirable place of residence, other attractions must therefore be held out than those of money-making. It should not merely have the show of wealth, but its refinements. It should not be known only as a trading community, but as a refined and intelligent one, giving to mind its due influence, and cherishing those objects that are worthy of the liberal and enlightened citizen.

It is now time, too, that we should have other temples than those of dissipation, where the virtuous and aspiring youth of this and other cities, who come to reside among us, may spend their leisure hours in the pursuit of knowledge and science, inasmuch especially as the success of commerce depends on the intelligence and character of the men who engage in it.

It will not be denied that the high moral standard of the merchants of our country is in part to be attributed to the support and interest they uniformly take in fostering and encouraging the dissemination of knowledge, and the establishment of literary and scientific institutions in our cities.

Then let the example now set by the munificence of the founders of this Library have its due influence, and their suggestions be fully carried out by the unanimous voice and support of the people, and it will be the means of supplying the only link now wanting, to complete the chain of our system of public education, so happily conceived and successfully put into operation by the councils of this city.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your ob't serv't,

BENJAMIN F. FRENCH.

To A. D. Crossman, Esq., Mayor of the City of New Orleans.

Mayoralty of New Orleans, March 13th, 1847.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated 10th inst., communicating Mr. Alvarez Fisk's in-

tention of presenting to the City of New Orleans your valuable Library, for the purpose of carrying into effect the object of the bequest of his brother the late Abijah Fisk.

Fully appreciating this intended gift and the liberal and praiseworthy motives of the donor, I deem it my duty to state that I will, as soon as practicable, lay your communication before the different councils in order that they may become acquainted with Mr. Alvarez Fisk's intentions, and with *your own sound suggestions*, relative to the establishment of a *free public Library* for the use of the citizens of New Orleans. In behalf of the City of New Orleans, I accept the donation.

I am, respectfully, your ob't servant,

A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

Benjamin F. French, Esq., New Orleans.

New Orleans, March 23, 1847.

Sir,—I am this day honored with a letter from my friend Alvarez Fisk, Esq., of Natchez, requesting me to present in his name, and which I have the honor to do, the following valuable Philosophical Instruments and my collection of plants of Louisiana, to be deposited in the Library, presented by him to this City.

1. A brass mounted Refracting Telescope;
2. A brass mounted Compound Microscope;
3. A brass mounted Case of Mathematical Instruments;
4. A brass mounted Case containing my Louisiana Herbarium, 6 vols. fol.

This important addition to the Fisk Free Library of New Orleans will greatly enhance its value, and render it not only more attractive to the scientific student, but to strangers visiting this city.

The spirit which has actuated Mr. Fisk, in promptly co-operating with me, in founding this Library, on a liberal and enlightened plan, must ever do honor both to his heart and head; and if carried out in the same spirit by the Councils of this

city, it will doubtless become one of the greatest ornaments both of the City and State.

The appropriation now asked for from the city, to place it on a permanent foundation, is comparatively trifling when we take into consideration the amount of good that will be effected by it, and, if apportioned among its inhabitants, would scarcely amount to a contribution of one cent from each person, while even this small sum will be lessened every year, with the rapid growth of this city, until it will be reduced to less than *half a cent* per head per annum, from each one entitled to make use of this Library.

It now rests with the people, therefore, and with those who represent them in the Councils, to avail themselves of this only cheap and practicable mode of securing a magnificent Library for their free use, and of strangers visiting our city; and rest assured that if no narrow and selfish policy springs up in the Councils to retard its progress, or destroy its usefulness, this Library will, in less than half the time it has taken the Philadelphia Library to become established, boast of a collection of 80 or 90,000 volumes of Books, dispensing, in the mean time, its rich treasures to all who will seek to enter its portals in search of knowledge.

The success of this institution will also, doubtless, wield a powerful influence over the destinies of this State, for let it be but once generally understood that it is a *city institution*, and not dependent on yearly subscriptions, or the caprice and favor of individuals, it must soon attract the attention, and receive the cordial support of wealthy individuals, who will esteem it an honor to have their names associated with it, by legacies and donations of books.

I now beg leave to close this communication, by presenting to the city, for the *use of this* Library, my brass-mounted Reflecting Telescope.

A small collection of Southern shells and minerals. A manuscript history of the Revolution in England, 1688.

A manuscript history of the proceedings of the first American Congress, which met in New-York in 1765, presented to me by the late Hon. Charles Thompson, Secretary of the first Congress, held in Philadelphia in 1774, with an autograph let-

ter of the Hon. Edward Livingston, Secretary of State, addressed to me, on the historical importance of this document, stating, that no copy of it could be found in the archives of the department of State.

Two fine paintings, and my large map of New Orleans. A copy of my Lives of Distinguished Americans, (Biographia Americana,) and two copies of my Historical Collections of Louisiana, translated from copies of original French documents, deposited in the Marine Department, Paris.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, your ob't serv't,

BENJAMIN F. FRENCH.

To A. D. Crossman, Esq., Mayor, New Orleans.

Mayoralty of New Orleans, 26th March, 1847.

Council of Municipality No. One, Sitting of Monday, 22d March, 1847.

Resolved,—That the thanks of this Council be voted to Mr. Alvarez Fisk, for his donation of Books to the City of New Orleans, and that the Committee on Education be appointed to confer with a similar Committee from the Second and Third Municipalities, to take such measures as may be deemed necessary to carry out the object of the donation.

Provided it be done according to law.

Signed, JOSEPH GENOIS, Recorder.

Approved 23d March, 1847.
Signed, A. D. Crossman, Mayor.

Mayoralty of New Orleans, March 29th, 1847.

Benjamin F. French, Esq.

Sir,—Inclosed I have the honor to transmit to you herewith copies of the Resolutions passed by the several Municipal Councils, expressive of their sincere thanks for the valuable donation of Books presented, through you, to the City of New

Orleans, by Mr. Alvarez Fisk, for the purpose of carrying into effect the object of the bequest of the late Abijah Fisk.*

It devolves on me to tender, through your channel, to Mr. Alvarez Fisk, in behalf of the Councils and of the citizens of New Orleans, their grateful acknowledgments for this truly munificent gift. In accomplishing the task, I feel the utmost pleasure and gratification, from the circumstance that no tribute of gratitude and admiration can be found too great to be awarded to the liberal and public-spirited citizen who has thus endowed our city with an extensive collection of useful and scientific books. Mr. Fisk has very justly felt that a Public Library, accessible to all, had become necessary in this market-place of trade, where the votaries of traffic are prone to be engrossed by naught but the pursuits of sordid interests. He has felt, too, that a few hours snatched from the bustle and from the dusty path of commerce would have the beneficial tendency of awakening in many a noble and high ambition of intellectual improvement. To him will our youths be indebted for the means of developing their mental faculties otherwise doomed, perhaps, to lie dormant in obscurity and oblivion, for want of proper cultivation and nourishment.

We hear ever and anon of great and extraordinary public services which call forth the admiration, and are greeted by the applause of the multitude, but in my humble conception, he deserves the very highest encomiums, and has more solid claims, than all others, to the gratitude and veneration of his fellow-creatures, who, with a generous hand, distributes the wealth for which he has toiled through life, to let flow in abundant streams among all classes of society, the fountain of science and of learning. The names of Messieurs Abijah and Alvarez Fisk will long live in the hearts of their follow-citizens as public benefactors.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

* The late Abijah Fisk, Merchant, bequeathed by will a large building at the corner of Custom-House and Bourbon Streets, to the City of New Orleans, for the use of a Public Library.

Mayoralty of New Orleans, 13th Sept., 1847.

Sir,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of 23d ult., making still further valuable donations to the "Fisk Free Library" by the founders thereof, Alvarez Fisk, Esq., and yourself, permit me to express my warmest feelings of gratification in being the instrument, on the part of the City of New Orleans, to return thanks for this continued and determined effort to erect a fountain of knowledge in our city, whence shall flow intelligence and usefulness, and affording the gratuitous means of elevating to the highest pinnacle of fame those whom their position and narrow circumstances would otherwise have kept in ignorance and mediocrity.

Very respectfully I am your obedient servant,

A. D. CROSSMAN, Mayor.

To B. F. French, Esq., New Orleans.

Edward Capen Esq
Librarian of Public Lib'y of Bo
With the respects of
Benj. F. French

CORRESPONDENCE.

MAYORALTY, NEW ORLEANS,
28th April, 1852.

Benjamin F. French, Esq., New York:

DEAR SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., covering bill of lading and catalogue of a box of books, shipped by the steamer Wm. Penn, for the New Orleans Fisk Free Library. On the arrival of the vessel I shall take charge of the books and present them to the institution in your name.

By this day's mail I forward to you a pamphlet containing my message to the Common Council, in which I touched upon the condition of the Library, and urged the appointment of a committee to examine into the matter with the view of adding to the usefulness of the institution. I am happy to add that the Council has responded to my suggestion, and I shall take pleasure in laying before the Committee the views you have given expression to in your last communication.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
A. D. CROSSMAN, *Mayor.*

Extract from the Mayor's Message.

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS,
April 12, 1852.

The late Abijah Fisk bequeathed to the city of New Orleans a fine building at the corner of Custom House and Bourbon streets, for the purpose of establishing a public

library for the benefit of the community at large. In 1847 Mr. Alvarez Fisk, of Natchez, presented through Mr. B. F. French, to the city of New Orleans, the very valuable library of the latter gentleman for the purpose of carrying into effect the praiseworthy object of his brother.

The library in question comprised the very large number of about six thousand volumes, presenting a collection of exceedingly valuable books, relating to history, commerce, natural and physical science, finance, statistics, biography, &c., &c.

I have lately received from Mr. B. F. French, who takes a warm and deep interest in the success of this free library, a package of books and maps, contributed by several friends of his at the North, for the benefit of the institution; and he informs me that he will continue his efforts to obtain donations of works, with the view of increasing the usefulness of the library.

The establishment of free libraries has proved a powerful auxiliary in the cause of public education, and morals; and I deem it my duty, therefore, to commend this institution to your enlightened care and protection. In the meanwhile I would suggest the appointment of a committee to examine into the resources and requirements of the Fisk Free Library, and to have the books carefully arranged and catalogued, with the view of adding to the usefulness and character of the institution.

New York, January 1, 1853.

Hon. A. D. Crossman, Mayor of New Orleans:

Sir,—I had the honor some weeks ago to ship you a box of books for the Fisk Free Library, which I hope has reached you in good order.

It appears to me to be of the first importance to your citizens that this library should at once receive some pecuniary aid from your Councils, in order that its usefulness may be more widely diffused among the young men of your city,

especially among those whose means are limited, and opportunities few, to cultivate their minds.

I do not doubt there are at this present time hundreds of young men engaged in business, with bright and intelligent minds but defective education, who would gladly prefer to avail themselves of the advantages of this Library, if it was only made attractive to them by a constant supply of new works, instead of loitering away their evenings at places of amusement and dissipation. It would also be a pleasant resort for strangers visiting your city.

I therefore think it is the duty of your Councils to place this Library in a position to confer the greatest benefits upon your citizens; for sure I am it may be made, with a little care, to realize the reasonable expectations of its founders.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

BENJ. F. FRENCH.

MAYORALTY, NEW ORLEANS,
13th January, 1853.

B. F. French, Esq., New York:

SIR,—I had the honor to receive in due course of mail your communication, accompanied by a list of books donated to the Fisk Free Library.

Your letter on the subject I transmitted to the Board of Aldermen; and I have been authorized to express to you, and through you to the donors, the thanks of the Council for this contribution, as also for the kindly interest which you continue to evince in the prosperity of the Fisk Free Library.

I also have to acknowledge the receipt of your welcome favors of the 8th ult., and the 1st of this month; and heartily coinciding, as I do, with you in the eloquent reflections which you have been pleased to express in behalf of the diffusion of knowledge, and of the inestimable advantage of free libraries,

and the consequent duty of the authorities of this city to extend the usefulness of the one in which you take so deep an interest, I beg to assure you that nothing on my part will be left undone to further your views, and to make the Fisk Free Library what its noble founders intended it should be.

Committees of both Councils have, as you are aware, been appointed to take charge of the library; and I have allowed no occasion to pass without impressing upon these gentlemen the necessity and duty of doing everything in their power to aid the institution and to place it on such a footing as to be an ornament to the City of New Orleans.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
A. D. CROSSMAN, *Mayor.*

New York, April 25, 1853.

Hon. A. D. Crossman, Mayor of New Orleans:

Sir,—I had the honor, in the month of January last, to receive your obliging favor, informing me of the safe arrival of the box of books I shipped you for the Fisk Free Library; and I am happy to have it again in my power to forward you another, by the steamer Cherokee, which you will do me the honor to present to this institution.

As this Library has taken a deep hold upon my sympathies, I hope it may yet be in my power to serve it many years; but I must confess, I feel not a little disappointed that it has been so long neglected by your citizens. I think, sir, it has deserved a better fate than this; and some steps should at once be taken, by your councils, to extend its sphere of usefulness.

I regard it as indispensable to your city, and especially to your public schools, to keep this library liberally supplied with the current literature of the day. If you inspire the

students of your public schools with a taste for literature and science, and wish to make it available to them, you must place within their reach well-supplied libraries of standard works, that require no fees or subscription to open their doors.

I am, therefore, extremely desirous to see this library placed upon a more liberal footing, so that its benefits may not only be felt now, but in all time to come.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully,

Your ob't serv't,

BENJ. F. FRENCH.

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, 16TH MAY, 1853.

Benj. F. French, Esq., New York:

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ulto., advising me of the shipment of a box of books per "Cherokee," for the Fisk Free Library, which have since come to hand, and been disposed of agreeably to your request.

For the strong and continued interest you have evinced in this institution, I have to return you my sincere thanks; and it will afford you pleasure to know that it is now in a fair way to attain that eminence and usefulness which you have so much at heart.

Acting upon the petition of the Mechanics' Society and a large number of citizens, the Common Council has transferred the Fisk Free Library to the magnificent building of the Mechanics' Institute, to be held and used by said Society, for the same uses and trusts under which the building and library were held by the city of New Orleans. The rent of the building at the corner of Bourbon and Custom-house streets is to be applied to the benefit and enlargement of the Library, and the same is to be kept open daily, and be free to all citizens of New Orleans. The condition of the library is to be reported upon at least once a-year. This act of transfer

having been approved by Mr. Alvarez Fisk, has now gone into effect; and the change must add greatly to the usefulness and extension of the library.

It will afford me much pleasure to be the medium of transmitting donations of books to the Fisk Free Library, from yourself or friends.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obed't ser't,
A. D. CROSSMAN, *Mayor.*

New York, 94 Clinton Place, Nov. 26th, 1853.

Hon. A. D. Crossman, Mayor of New Orleans:

Sir,—It affords me much pleasure to forward you another box of books for the Fisk Free Library, which you will do me the honor to present to the city of New Orleans.

Many of them are new and elegant editions of the works of some of our best writers, who have sent them to me from distant parts of our country, in consideration of the deep interest they have taken in the success of this institution. I therefore hope, that these contributions will be duly appreciated by your city, and prompt your citizens to make an effort to give this Library some assistance; for I cannot imagine that so refined and wealthy a city as yours, can be always so absorbed in the pursuit of gain, as never to find time to give it some consideration.

It was but the other day I noticed an article in one of our papers, that Boston had purchased a lot of ground, for *seventy* thousand dollars, to erect a library building on, to accommodate the books of her Free Library, an institution but recently founded in that city. This determination to provide for her citizens a proper building for her Free Library, is highly commendable; and, yet, I do not think that that city stands half so much in need of one as yours, nor is she any better able to

support one. Such public spirit is, however, not rare in our country. Is it, then, to be wondered at that the fame of her scholastic and scientific institutions have gone abroad, and that she is governed by liberal laws and an enlightened government. I am persuaded, sir, that if your city would but give the Fisk Free Library the small sum of only a few hundred dollars per annum, to be expended in books, that in a few years, its benefits would be sensibly felt in the improved character and mental culture of her youth.

In taking a survey of the intellectual progress of our country, and in tracing the rise and progress of the great discoveries and inventions which have added so much to our fame, and consolidated our power over the material world, it is evident that no little must be attributed to good libraries, literary and scientific institutions, which have been spread over our country by the munificence of private individuals.

I hope, sir, whatever, then, may be the destiny of this library, that, at least, the young men of your city will take a deep interest in its welfare; and, as the trustees of posterity, will be always ambitious to be found among its most liberal and zealous supporters.

In the box I send, you will find a large number of valuable pamphlets, relating to political, municipal, philanthropic, and financial matters, highly suggestive, and reflective of the age in which we live; and as they contain important facts of deep interest to society, I trust they will be, in due time, classified and bound up for future reference; I offer this suggestion because it too often happens, that they are looked upon as trash, and thrown aside, food for worms and dust.

In conclusion, I beg leave to present the mayor's library, with a copy of the 5th vol. of my Historical Collections of Louisiana, and an engraved portrait of Governor Bienville, the founder of New Orleans, which I hope will find a place near that of the hero and defender of your city, General Andrew Jackson.

I have the honor to be,

Respectfully,

Your ob't servant,

BENJ. F. FRENCH.

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, 24TH DECEMBER, 1853.

Benj. F. French, Esq., New York:

SIR,—I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 26th ulto., and also a box of books for the Fisk Free Library, which I duly delivered to the Mechanics' Institute, under whose charge the library, as you are aware, now is.

I have now the satisfaction of transmitting to you herewith a resolution of the Common Council, expressive of their thanks for your continued exertions in contributing to the usefulness and increase of the Fisk Free Library.

I have the honor to be, Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

A. D. CROSSMAN, *Mayor.*

MAYORALTY OF NEW ORLEANS, COMMON COUNCIL, }
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS. No. 1267. }

Whereas B. F. French, Esq., of New York City, formerly of this city, has on numerous occasions transmitted presents of valuable books and publications for the use of the Fisk Free Library; *and whereas* that gentleman has quite recently sent on to the mayor of this city a box of valuable works for the same institution; *and whereas* the Common Council of the city of New Orleans gratefully recognize these exertions on the part of Mr. French to contribute to the usefulness of said library; be it

Resolved, That the thanks of the Common Council of the city of New Orleans are herewith tendered to Mr. French, and through him to the various donors, for their valuable contributions of books and publications, in support of the Fisk Free Library.

Resolved, That the Mayor be respectfully requested to transmit a copy of the foregoing Preamble and Resolutions to Mr. B. F. French, at New York.

(Signed.) JAMES H. CALDWELL,
President Board Aldermen.

(Signed.) S. W. DALTON,
Pres. Board Ass. Aldermen.

Approved, 21 Dec., 1853.

(Signed.) A. D. CROSSMAN, *Mayor.*

Pres. by Hon. Hiram
Ketchum.

CHARTER, REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

SOCIETY, LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES,

For the Year 1866.

JAS. RICHARDSON, President Board of Public Schools.
IRA DIVOLL, Superintendent Public Schools.
HORACE H. MORGAN, Principal High School.
MISS A. C. BRACKETT, Principal Normal School.
} *Ex-Officiis.*

W. G. ELIOT,	WM. T. HARRIS,
C. S. GREELEY,	GEO. PARTRIDGE,
S. D. BARLOW,	GEO. W. NASH,
T. B. EDGAR,	FELIX COSTE,
THOS. RICHESON,	MRS. ELIZA C. DUNHAM,
JNO. CONZELMAN,	MISS KATE T. WILSON.

OFFICERS.

JAMES RICHARDSON, President.
C. S. GREELEY, Vice-President.
RICHARD FENBY, Recording Secretary.
WM. H. MAURICE, Treasurer.
JOHN JAY BAILEY, Librarian.
LOUIS NOLLAU, Assistant.

COMMITTEES,

For the Year 1866.

Executive Committee.	Library Committee.
GEORGE PARTRIDGE,	WM. T. HARRIS,
THOS. RICHESON,	REV. W. G. ELIOT,
S. D. BARLOW,	DR. JOHN CONZELMAN,
T. B. EDGAR,	H. H. MORGAN,
MISS K. T. WILSON.	MISS A. C. BRACKETT.
JAS. RICHARDSON, *Ex-officio*.	JAS. RICHARDSON, *Ex-officio*.

Lecture Committee.

IRA DIVOLL, FELIX COSTE,

REV. W. G. ELIOT, G. W. NASH,

MRS. E. C. DUNHAM.

Auxiliary Committee.

1st Ward	F. A. H. SCHNEIDER, Esq. H. A. HOMEYER. "	6th Ward	Rev. H. A. NELSON, D. D. J. H. LIGHTNER, Esq.
2d Ward	JULIUS CONRAD, " ISIDOR BUSH. "	7th Ward	I. L. GARRISON, " S. M. EDGELL, "
3d Ward	JAMES R. LAKE, " EMIL PRETORIUS, "	8th Ward	J. S. B. ALLEYNE, M. D. I. Z. SMITH, Esq.
4th Ward	Rev. HUGO KREBS, D. D. C. R. STINDE, Esq.	9th Ward	Gen'l W. A. PILE, Dr. O. F. POTTER.
5th Ward	J. H. ANDREWS, Esq. R. H. SPENCER, "	10th Ward	C. W. IRWIN, Esq. THOS. HAYWARD, Esq.

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.

The St. Louis Public School Library is now one of the permanent institutions of our city. It was incorporated, by act of Legislature, in February, 1865. Seven months ago, it was a Library only in the name, and in the hopes of a few zealous friends. To-day (June 1st, 1866) it boasts a collection of SIX THOUSAND VOLUMES of carefully selected works, arranged in commodious book-cases, in two large and pleasant rooms. These results, achieved at an expense of $12,000, are due, in the main, to receipts for membership, as will be seen by the following statement:

Total received from Subscriptions for Membership	$8,390
" " " Exhibitions	2,500
" " " Cash donations	110
1,084 volumes of Books presented, valued at	1,000
Total	$12,000

Thus, as this table shows, the institution has created itself in the short space of seven months, with little extraneous assistance, and affording to all who have contributed to its establishment a fair return for their investments. We now ask of its friends and patrons, of all who are interested in the cause of popular education—nay, of the citizens at large of our great and growing city: shall this undertaking stop here, or shall it continue as it has begun, until it shall take rank among the largest and most popular of the great enterprises of the West?

A presentation of the objects of the Library, and of the aims which its Trustees have in view, may here not be amiss. It is not exclusively, nor even in the main, *a Library for children*. It has upon its shelves now, over 1,200 volumes of juvenile works, and it is the intention to make of this department a specialty, and to keep it supplied constantly with fresh books of instruction and amusement. Yet, as every thinking mind will readily admit, the amount of practical information drawn by children from the books they read is but a trifling benefit compared to those more enduring and important ones, a fondness for reading, and habits of study and thought which are begotten in their young minds by early and constant contact with a large collection of books. To create these habits and impress them so firmly that they will remain through after life, is the object which this Library proposes as regards those who are now children in our schools. But this desire for knowledge and for books, once awakened, must needs be gratified, and hence the necessity for supplying our shelves with all the most valuable works that treat upon the various subjects of human inquiry. Nothing short of a first-class reference library, where may be found whatever the best minds in all the earth have said upon every subject of knowledge, can satisfy those who, through many years of connection with our institution, have learned to value books as they deserve. It is such a Library that we are seeking to establish in St. Louis—a Library for its people and for its children—for all ages and sexes and turns of mind. Up to the present date its members, fully one-half of whom are of adult age, are almost exclusively those who have been connected with our Public Schools. To the large class of our citizens who have never held such connection, we are about to offer great inducements. Arrangements are now in progress and will be perfected, it is hoped, before this address issues from the press, to furnish our Reading Room with all the leading newspapers, magazines and reviews of our own country and Europe. To these and to our books,

we offer free access upon payment of the trifling fee of THREE DOLLARS annual subscription, or ONE DOLLAR for four months. Can any one hesitate to avail himself of advantages like these?

The number of children enrolled in our Public Schools during the scholastic year of 1865-6, amounts to over 16,000. Every one of these is eligible to life membership upon the easy terms provided in Section 32 of the By-Laws. It only needs that every one be constituted a life member, to yield the Library a fund of over $190,000, and place it at once on a par with the best Libraries in our land; and this can be accomplished, if parents will study the real interests of their children, and, by the insignificant expense of one dollar quarterly, for four years, secure to them the life-long benefits which the Library offers. To the parents and teachers of our future men and women, we, then, earnestly appeal, to advance the great cause of intellectual and moral education, and we trust to see yet achieved the brilliant results hinted at above, and dependent only on a little generous effort.

Our Schools contain a large number of highly meritorious pupils whom poverty debars from the privileges of the Library. Several of these have already been constituted life-members by means of money generously donated to the Library for that special use. Yet a large number remains, and we hope that our citizens will contribute liberally to decrease it.

Below are appended the names of those to whom the Library is indebted for gifts of money and of books. In our present condition, books of all classes (not pernicious in their character) are welcome, and are earnestly solicited. We trust to largely swell the list of our benefactors before their names shall again appear in print.

JAS. RICHARDSON, *President.*

JNO. JAY BAILEY, *Librarian.*

ST. LOUIS, *June* 1, 1866.

LIST OF BENEFACTORS:

Dr. J. S. B. ALLEYNE.
Prof. A. D. BACHE.
ROBERT C. BARNUM.
FREEMAN BARNUM.
ROBERT BARTH.
BELT & PRIEST.
FRANCIS BERG.
BOARD OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
F. I. A. BOOLE.
Miss A. C. BRACKETT.
G. BREMERMANN.
BREWER & TILESTON.
C. B. BURNHAM.
W. M. CARPENTER.
ALFRED CARR.
Col. T. S. CASE.
J. E. CHAMBERLAIN.
W. A. CHANDLER.
L. B. CLARK.
R. L. CLAYTON.
Miss M. E. COOK.
Hon. D. N. COOLEY.
Hon. FELIX COSTE.
Gen. RICHARD DELAFIELD.
H. DEUBACH.
Hon. C. D. DRAKE.
W. R. FISH.
I. L. GARRISON.
E. P. GRAY.
WM. GROSHON.
Hon. JAS. HARLAN.
WM. T. HARRIS.
Capt. R. SANDS HART.
Prof. JOS. HENRY.
Mrs. M. HEUER.
Hon. JOHN HOGAN.
Prof. GEO. H. HOWISON.
JAMESON & PUGH.
Hon. SAMUEL KNOX.
THEO. KROSCHEL.
W. H. MARKHAM.
E. L. MASSOT.
J. F. MIELERT.
R. H. MILLER & SONS.
GEO. MOORE.
W. J. RHEES.
ROBERTS BROS.
Hon. FRANCIS RODMAN.
LOUIS ROHRER.
EDW. S. ROWSE.
SCHERMERHORN, BANCROFT & Co.
Dr. I. SCHWARZ.
JAS. B. SICKLES.
SOL. SMITH.
ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.
R. P. STUDLEY & Co.
Prof. R. L. TAFEL.
Hon. T. C. THEAKER.
M. A. TODD.
J. L. TRACY.
JOHN WARDEN.
PHILIP WISSER.
J. G. YEATMAN.

CHARTER.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE A PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY SOCIETY IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1. That S. D. Barlow, Ira Divoll, C. F. Childs, and such other persons as may be associated with them in compliance with the conditions expressed in sections two and three of this Act, are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of the "PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY SOCIETY OF ST. LOUIS," and by that name they and their successors shall be known in law, have perpetual succession and a common seal, and may contract, be contracted with, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity, and may purchase, receive and hold, alien and convey, any real or personal property, which may be given or dedicated to, or purchased by them, for the use of said Society.

SEC. 2. The object of said Society is declared to be the establishment and maintenance of a Public School Library and Lyceum, and all persons who have been heretofore, are now, or may be hereafter, directors, officers, teachers, or pupils of the St. Louis Public Schools, may become life members of said Library by paying to the Board of Trustees herein provided for the sum of *twelve dollars*. No other persons than those herein designated shall be eligible to life membership of said Library; but there may be *annual subscribers* to the same under such regulations as the Board of Trustees may determine.

SEC. 3. No persons except life members of said Library are entitled to become members of the Society hereby established. Directors, officers and teachers of the Public Schools, and all other adult persons, shall become members of said Society by virtue of their life membership of said Library; but the conditions on which pupils shall be entitled to membership of said Society shall be determined by the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 4. The powers of the Society herëby established shall be vested in a Board of sixteen Trustees, any nine of whom shall constitute a quorum to transact business. The President of the Board of Public Schools, the Superintendent of Public Schools, the Principal of the High School, and the Principal of the Normal School in St. Louis, and their successors, are hereby declared permanent members of the said Board of Trustees, by virtue of their respective offices. The remaining twelve members of said Board, six of whom may be females, shall be elected by said Society from their own members, for the term of three years, and until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified; and one-third of the number shall go out of office every year; and for that purpose the first Board shall cause its *elected* members to be divided by lot into three equal classes. The first class to go out of office at the end of one year, the second at the end of two, and the third at the end of three years. Any vacancy that may occur in this Board by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the Board itself.

SEC. 5. The President of the said Board of Public Schools shall be *ex-officio* President of the said Board of Trustees, and he is hereby authorized to open, or cause to be opened, a book of registry, wherein shall be recorded the names of all eligible persons who may desire to become members of said Society; and when fifty or more persons shall have thus

enrolled their names, he shall call them together at such time and place as he may designate, and when assembled they shall proceed to elect *twelve trustees*, who, when elected, shall be classified as directed in the foregoing section.

SEC. 6. The said Board of Trustees shall have power to appoint such officers and agents as may be necessary to accomplish the objects of the Society, and to prescribe their powers, duties and compensation, and to make and enforce all such rules, regulations and by-laws as may be required in the transaction of their business and the management of the said Library: *Provided*, that nothing therein contained shall be repugnant to the provisions of this act or the laws of the land.

SEC. 7. The said Board of Trustees shall have power to assess all life members of said Library any amount not exceeding three dollars *per annum;* but no such assessment shall be made without the concurrence of at least two-thirds of the members of said Board.

SEC. 8. The Board of St. Louis Public Schools are hereby authorized to appropriate out of their general fund a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars for the benefit of said Society, to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said Library; and they are further authorized to provide rooms for the accommodation of said Library.

SEC. 9. All property, both real and personal, belonging to said Society and used for the exclusive benefit and purpose of said Library, shall be exempt from all taxation of every nature and kind whatever.

SEC. 10. The corporation hereby established shall not be limited in its duration by anything contained in the first clause of the first section of the first article of "An Act Concerning Corporations," approved November 23d, 1855.

This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

OFFICE SECRETARY OF STATE,
City of Jefferson, Mo.

I, FRANCIS RODMAN, Secretary of State, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and complete copy of an act entitled "An act to incorporate a Public School Library Society in the city of St. Louis," as appears from the original roll of said act now on file in this office.

[L.S.] In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal. Done at office, this 3d day of February, A. D. 1865.

FRANCIS RODMAN, *Secretary of State.*

REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY SOCIETY

OF ST. LOUIS.

CHAPTER I.

Meetings of the Society.

SECTION 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Library Society on the third Saturday in January of each year, at four o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing four trustees, receiving the report of the Board for the past year, and for the transaction of such other business as may be presented.

SEC. 2. The President of the Board of Trustees, at the request of said Board, or at the written request of twenty active members, stating reasons therefor, shall call a meeting of the Society for the transaction of special business, giving one week's public notice thereof.

CHAPTER II.

Officers of the Board, and their Duties.

SECTION 3. The Board of Trustees shall, at its first regular meeting after the annual meeting of the Society in January, or as soon thereafter as may be, elect by ballot a Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian. The Vice President shall be selected from the members of the Board.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the President (who holds his office by virtue of being President of the Board of Public Schools), to preside at all meetings of the Board, preserve order, rigidly enforce the rules, sign all warrants drawn on the Treasurer, and all bonds, notes or agreements ordered to be executed by the Board, and to appoint all committees when not otherwise provided for.

SEC. 5. The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that officer.

SEC. 6. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the transactions of the Board of Trustees and of the Society.

SEC. 7. The Treasurer shall receive all dues and donations of money, pay all drafts on him when signed by the President and countersigned by the Librarian, keep a regular account of the financial concerns of the Board, and shall make, during the first week in January of each year, a written report of the same to the President, whose duty it shall be to submit the same to the annual meeting of the Society. He shall give such security as the Board may approve in the sum of five thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties.

SEC. 8. The Librarian shall conform strictly to the By-Laws concerning the Library; and in addition to the duties therein mentioned, he shall receive all subscriptions and donations to the Library, and collect the fines which may be assessed upon members for detention, damage, or loss of books. He shall deposit with the Treasurer at least once every week all the moneys that may be received by him. He shall keep an accurate and detailed account of his transactions in books provided for that purpose, which shall at all

times be open to the inspection of any member of the Board. He shall be the custodian of the seal, of the Library tickets, and of the certificates of membership. He shall give such security as the Board may approve in the sum of one thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties and the safe keeping of all property intrusted to his care. The Librarian shall also be *ex-officio* Corresponding Secretary.

CHAPTER III.

Committees and their Duties.

SECTION 9. At the first regular meeting after the election of trustees in January, or as soon thereafter as may be, the Board shall elect the following *standing* committees, viz:

I. *The Executive Committee,* consisting of five members of the Board. II. *The Library Committee*, consisting of five members of the Board. III. *The Lecture Committee*, consisting of five members of the Board. IV. *The Auxiliary Committee*, consisting of twenty members of the Society, two from each Ward.

The Executive Committee and the Library Committee shall be elected by ballot, and the President shall be *ex-officio* a member of each.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to solicit subscriptions and donations to the Library; to examine from time to time into the finances of the Board; to see that all dues be paid; to take into consideration any reports or propositions relating to the treasury, and to suggest such plans for enhancing the interests of the Society as they may deem proper; and make a detailed report of the financial condition of the Library once a quarter, at the regular meetings in January, April, July and October of each year. No claim of any amount for money from the funds of the Society, except in case of contracts expressly made or provided for by the Board, shall be paid or settled until the same has been examined by this committee and submitted to the Board for its action thereon.

SEC. 11. It shall be the duty of the Library Committee to exercise general supervision over the Library and see that the books are properly catalogued and arranged; to prepare, in conjunction with the Librarian, a list of works recommended by them as suitable for purchase; and to take into consideration and report upon such other matters as may be referred to them by the Board.

SEC. 12. It shall be the duty of the Lecture Committee to make all necessary arrangements for the delivery of suitable courses of lectures; to correspond with and secure the services of eminent lecturers; but no decisive engagements shall be entered into by them without special authority from the Board.

SEC. 13. It shall be the duty of the Auxiliary Committee to co-operate with and aid the Executive Committee and the Librarian in soliciting subscriptions and donations to the Library, and to make reports from time to time to the Board of Trustees.

CHAPTER IV.

Meetings of the Board and Rules of Order.

SECTION 14. The stated meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held at the rooms of the Society, or such other place as shall be from time to time designated, on the second Saturday in each month, at four o'clock P. M.

SEC. 15. The President or any three members of the Board may call special meetings by giving three days' notice in writing to the other members of the Board. A majority of the whole number shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day.

SEC. 16. The President shall take the chair at the appointed hour and call the members to order, and the Secretary shall call the roll, noting the absent members, and read the minutes of the last meeting.

SEC. 17. No motion shall be subject to debate until it has been seconded and stated by the chair. It shall be reduced to writing at the request of the President or any other member.

SEC. 18. When a question is before the Board, no motion shall be received except to

adjourn, to lay on the table, the previous question, to refer, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain time, or to amend; and the motions named shall take precedence in the order here arranged—the first, second and third shall be decided without debate.

SEC. 19. A motion for amendment, until decided, shall preclude further amendment of the main question.

SEC. 20. No motion or proposition shall be admitted as a substitute for the motion or resolution under debate. Any member, however, may call for a division of the question, when the same, in the opinion of the President, admits of it.

SEC. 21. On the call of two members, a majority of the Board may demand that the previous question shall be put, which shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" and, until it is decided, no further debate shall take place, and the vote shall be taken, first on any amendments that may be pending, and next, on the final question.

SEC. 22. The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Board by any member. In such cases the question shall be: "Shall the decision of the chair be sustained?" and, until it is decided, all debate upon the pending question shall be suspended.

SEC. 23. The reconsideration of a question may be moved by any member who voted with the majority, but such motion shall be decided at the same or next regular meeting.

SEC. 24. Every member present shall vote on all questions, unless excused by the Board.

SEC. 25. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the record, whenever demanded by two members of the Board.

SEC. 26. No member shall be allowed to give his vote on any question after the result has been announced by the chair, unless by unanimous consent.

SEC. 27. When any member is about to speak on any question, he shall rise and address himself to the President, confine himself strictly to the point in debate, and avoid personalities.

SEC. 28. No member shall speak more than five minutes at any one time, on any motion under dicussion, nor more than once until all other members choosing to speak shall have spoken, nor more than twice to the same question, without consent of the Board.

SEC. 29. No member shall be interrupted whilst speaking, unless by a call to order, or to correct mistakes. If a member be called to order, he shall immediately take his seat until the point is decided by the chair.

SEC. 30. No member shall leave the Board before the close of the session, without permission of the President.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

SEC. 31. The regular order of business of this Board shall be as follows:

I. Calling the Roll.
II. Reading Minutes of previous meeting.
III. Reading Communications.
IV. Election of Officers, Committees, or Members, whenever vacancies exist.
V. Report of Executive Committee.
VI. Report of Library Committee.
VII. Report of Lecture Committee.
VIII. Report of Auxiliary Committee.
IX. Report of Treasurer.
X. Report of Librarian.
XI. Reports of Special Committees.
XII. Unfinished Business.
XIII. New Business.

CHAPTER V.

Conditions of Membership and Subscription.

SECTION 32. Any person who has been connected with the St. Louis Public Schools in the capacity of officer, director, teacher or pupil, may become a life member of the Library

Society by paying the sum of twelve dollars. This amount may be paid at one time, or in annual payments of four dollars each, or in quarterly payments of one dollar each, and the Librarian is authorized to issue tickets as evidence of the partial payments. The ticket given for the one dollar payment shall entitle the holder to three months' use of the Library from the time of its date, and when twelve such tickets shall at any time be presented to the Librarian, he shall issue in return for them a life-membership certificate; *provided*, the applicant be eligible thereto. Every life member of the Library Society shall receive a certificate of life membership signed by the President, Secretary, and Librarian, with the seal of the corporation affixed.

Sec. 33. Any person not eligible to life membership who may pay a sum not less than twenty-five dollars, or who may donate rare and valuable works, or new publications, or other property valued at not less than twenty-five dollars (if the same be accepted by the Board), shall be constituted an *honorary member* of the Library Society, and shall be entitled to all the privileges of regular membership except the right to vote and hold office, and shall receive, as evidence thereof, a certificate properly attested by the officers of the Board.

Sec. 34. The terms of annual subscription, for all persons, shall be at the rate of three dollars *per annum*, payable in advance.

Sec. 35. All subscribers, life members, and honorary members shall, in the use of the Library, be subject to the provisions and restrictions of the Charter and By-Laws.

CHAPTER VI.

Donations.

Section 36. Any person disposed to aid the youth of the city in establishing the Public School Library, who may donate a sum not less than five hundred dollars, may designate what department of the Library, or what books, he wishes to supply, and if the donation be accepted, the conditions stipulated shall be carried out, and such books shall bear upon their labels the name of the donor.

CHAPTER VII.

Miscellaneous.

Section 37. No person shall be an active member of the Society, that is, entitled to vote and hold office, who has not attained the age of eighteen years.

Sec. 38. The seal of the corporation shall have the following inscription: "Public School Library Society, St. Louis, 1865."

Sec. 39. In case of flagrant official or personal misconduct, the Board of Trustees shall have power, by a vote of two-thirds of its members, to expel a member of the Board or of the Society, from which decision an appeal shall be allowed to a called meeting of the Society.

Sec. 40. The tax mentioned in the seventh section of the Charter shall be construed to apply only to resident life members who may make use of the Library during the year for which the tax may be levied; and the non-payment of the same when levied shall deprive the delinquent of all the privileges of the Society and Library. Said tax shall not be levied upon any life member until the expiration of three years from the date of his certificate.

Sec. 41. The non-attendance of any member for two consecutive regular meetings, of which the usual notice has been served upon him, may be construed by the Board as a resignation of his seat, unless he is prevented from attending by sickness, or absence from the city, or for a reason satisfactory to the Board.

Sec. 42. None of these Regulations and By-Laws can be repealed or altered unless a two-thirds majority of all the Trustees vote for the repeal or alteration; nor unless upon motion made in writing for that purpose at a previous meeting of the Board: but any rule may be dispensed with for a particular occasion, on the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members present.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY

AND READING ROOM.

ARTICLE 1. The Library shall be open on all secular days throughout the year, except on Christmas, New Year's Day, the Fourth of July, and Thanksgiving Day, from 10 o'clock A. M. until 10 o'clock P. M.: *provided always*, that the President may direct the Library to be closed for a part, or the whole, of any one day, reporting the fact, and his reasons for it, to the Trustees, at their next meeting.

ARTICLE 2. The Librarian shall register, in a book to be called the "Issue Ledger," the names of all the members of the Society, with their places of business or of residence, and shall keep in such book a strict account of all sums paid by each member for subscription; of all dues and forfeitures incurred through undue detention, loss or injury of books; as well as enter therein the catalogue number of every book taken out by each member, with the date at which it was taken and that of its return.

ARTICLE 3. The Librarian shall furnish to every member of the Society a card bearing the name of such member, and the number of the page of said Issue Ledger at which the account of such member is opened; nor shall the Librarian issue to any member a book to be taken out of the Library, nor receive any book in return, except on presentation of such card.

ARTICLE 4. Members may consult, within the Library, any number of volumes, the same being charged to them upon a book to be kept for that purpose and canceled when returned by them to the Librarian.

ARTICLE 5. The book-cases of the Library shall be kept locked, and it shall be the duty of the Librarian to furnish to members, upon their applying to him, whatever books they may wish to use: *provided, however,* that the Librarian shall have, and he is hereby required to exert, a discretionary power, especially in the case of very young persons, as to withholding from free and unlimited use, such books as from their value, rarity, or character, are unsuited for general circulation.

ARTICLE 6. Encyclopedias, dictionaries and atlases shall in no case be taken out of the Library. Periodicals and pamphlets, until bound into volumes, and such other books as the Board may, from time to time, designate, shall not be taken out of the Library, except by special permission of the Librarian, approved by the President of the Board, expressed in writing, and stating the length of time which such pamphlet or book may be kept out.

ARTICLE 7. Members shall not take out of the Library, at one time, more than one book; *provided, however*, that of works or sets in more volumes than one there may be taken out as follows: Of folios, one volume; of quartos, two volumes; of octavos, three volumes; of duodecimos and smaller works, four volumes.

ARTICLE 8. Books taken out of the Library in accordance with the provisions of Article 7, may be detained as follows: Folios and quartos, four weeks; octavos, three weeks; duodecimos and smaller books, two weeks; the length of time allowed for detention of a book being the same whether one or more volumes be taken: *provided, always*, that any book may be borrowed twice by the same person, but not more than twice until it shall have been returned to the Library, and shall have remained there one full library day.

ARTICLE 9. Any member who shall detain a book longer than as allowed by the provisions of Article 8, shall be fined by the Librarian, *for each volume* so detained, four cents

for each day of such undue detention if the book be a folio or quarto; three cents, if an octavo; two cents, if a duodecimo or smaller book.

ARTICLE 10. If any member lose a book, he must immediately replace it, or pay to the Librarian its full value; nor shall he be entitled to take out any other book until that which is lost shall have been replaced or paid for. If the book be one of a set, he shall replace or pay for the whole set, and may receive the other volumes as his property so soon as another set shall have been obtained to take the place of that which had been rendered imperfect.

ARTICLE 11. If any member injure or deface a book, or suffer it to be injured or defaced while in his possession, by tearing or turning down its leaves, writing in it, or otherwise, beyond a reasonable wear, he may, at the discretion of the Librarian, be fined not more than the full value of the book injured, or may be required to pay for the whole set to which it may belong, as provided in the case of books lost, Article 10.

ARTICLE 12. Any person, not a resident of the city, may obtain the privileges of the Library for a period of four weeks, upon being introduced by a member of the Library: *provided*, that no books shall be taken out of the Library by non-residents, except as provided in Article 13, below.

ARTICLE 13. Non-residents and others, not members of the Society, may take books out of the Library upon depositing with the Librarian the full value of the books taken, or of the set to which they belong, for which deposit a receipt shall be given. Persons so drawing books must comply with the provisions of Articles 8, 9, 10 and 11. Upon their returning the books and the receipt, the sum deposited shall be repaid to them, after deducting any fines that may have been incurred for injury or undue detention of the books, and, also, after deducting therefrom twenty-five cents for each week or part of a week that each volume shall have been kept out.

ARTICLE 14. Members and others are particularly requested to enter in a book which shall be kept for that purpose, the title of any book not in the Library, which they may desire to use, or may deem deserving of a place on the shelves.

ARTICLE 15. At the beginning of each quarter of the year, the Librarian shall ascertain by an examination of the Issue Ledger, what books, if any, are being kept out beyond time, and shall take means to insure their return, the delinquent members being chargeable with all expenses incurred therein.

ARTICLE 16. Once in five years the Library shall be closed for the purpose of making a thorough examination of all the books, with a view to ascertaining what books, if any, are lost; and the Board of Trustees may then direct that all books shall be returned to the Library, assessing a fine of one dollar upon every book not returned; but reasonable notice of the time at which their return is required shall be given in at least two of the leading newspapers of the city.

ARTICLE 17. Once a year the Board may direct the Library to be closed, for a period not longer than three days, for the purpose of cleaning the room, and correcting any mistakes that may have occurred in the Issue Ledger or other books of issue.

ARTICLE 18. Smoking in the Library Rooms is forbidden. No male person shall remain in the Library or Reading Room with his hat on, nor put his feet upon the tables, chairs, benches, or other furniture; nor shall any loud or boisterous conversation be carried on in the Library Room. All conversation in the Reading Room is strictly forbidden.

ARTICLE 19. Residents of the city, not members of the Library, shall not be entitled to the use of the Library Room, or its books.

ARTICLE 20. Members of the Library shall not be entitled to any of its benefits so long as any dues or forfeitures incurred by them remain unpaid.

ARTICLE 21. Any person abusing the privileges of the Library by unbecoming conduct, or the violation of any of its regulations; by intentional defacement of a book by writing in it or otherwise, shall be immediately reported to the Trustees, who may exclude such person for a time, or permanently—declaring such person's membership forfeited, according to the nature of the delinquency or default.

ARTICLE 22. Any or all of these Regulations may be altered or set aside by a majority of the whole Board of Trustees at any regular meeting, or at any special meeting called for the purpose.

ST. LOUIS

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY,

SYSTEMATIC INDEX,

CHARTER, REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS.

1866.

SYSTEMATIC INDEX

TO THE

BOOKS OF THE ST. LOUIS

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY,

TOGETHER WITH THE

CHARTER, REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS

OF THE SOCIETY,

AND THE

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.

ST. LOUIS:
MISSOURI DEMOCRAT BOOK AND JOB PRINTING HOUSE.
1866.

2193
St. Louis Pub. Sch. Lib.
Sept. 27. 1867.

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NOTE. — Nothing like a system of scientific classification has been attempted in this Index. The works are here arranged merely under certain general heads, for the convenience of readers. It is hoped that a few years will see our stock of books sufficiently increased to warrant the publication of a Catalogue prepared upon a thoroughly scientific plan.

It may be well here to invite the attention of Students and seekers after information, to the works arranged under the head of TEXT BOOKS — a department which we hope to add to largely and continually — among which will be found many valuable elementary Treatises upon various branches of knowledge.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES,

For the Year 1866.

JAS. RICHARDSON, President Board of Public Schools.
IRA DIVOLL, Superintendent Public Schools.
HORACE H. MORGAN, Principal High School.
MISS A. C. BRACKETT, Principal Normal School.
} *Ex-Officiis.*

W. G. ELIOT,	WM. T. HARRIS,
C. S. GREELEY,	GEO. PARTRIDGE,
S. D. BARLOW,	GEO. W. NASH,
T. B. EDGAR,	FELIX COSTE,
THOS. RICHESON,	MRS. ELIZA C. DUNHAM,
JNO. CONZELMAN,	MISS KATE T. WILSON.

OFFICERS.

JAMES RICHARDSON, President.
C. S. GREELEY, Vice-President.
RICHARD FENBY, Recording Secretary.
WM. H. MAURICE, Treasurer.
JOHN JAY BAILEY, Librarian.
LOUIS NOLLAU, Assistant.

COMMITTEES,

For the Year 1866.

Executive Committee.

GEORGE PARTRIDGE,
THOS. RICHESON,
S. D. BARLOW,
T. B. EDGAR,
MISS K. T. WILSON.
JAS. RICHARDSON, *Ex-officio.*

Library Committee.

WM. T. HARRIS,
REV. W. G. ELIOT,
DR. JOHN CONZELMAN,
H. H. MORGAN,
MISS A. C. BRACKETT.
JAS. RICHARDSON, *Ex-officio.*

Lecture Committee.

IRA DIVOLL, FELIX COSTE,
REV. W. G. ELIOT, G. W. NASH,
MRS. E. C. DUNHAM.

Auxiliary Committee.

1st Ward { F. A. H. SCHNEIDER, Esq. / H. A. HOMEYER. "

2d Ward { JULIUS CONRAD, " / ISIDOR BUSH. "

3d Ward { JAMES R. LAKE, " / EMIL PRETORIUS, "

4th Ward { Rev. HUGO KREBS, D. D. / C. R. STINDE, Esq.

5th Ward { J. H. ANDREWS, Esq. / R. H. SPENCER, "

6th Ward { Rev. H. A. NELSON, D. D. / J. H. LIGHTNER, Esq.

7th Ward { I. L. GARRISON, " / S. M. EDGELL, "

8th Ward { J. S. B. ALLEYNE, M. D. / I. Z. SMITH, Esq.

9th Ward { Gen'l W. A. PILE, / Dr. O. F. POTTER.

10th Ward { C. W. IRWIN, Esq. / THOS. HAYWARD, Esq.

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS.

The St. Louis Public School Library is now one of the permanent institutions of our city. It was incorporated, by act of Legislature, in February, 1865. Seven months ago, it was a Library only in the name, and in the hopes of a few zealous friends. To-day (June 1st, 1866) it boasts a collection of six thousand volumes of carefully selected works, arranged in commodious book-cases, in two large and pleasant rooms. These results, achieved at an expense of $12,000, are due, in the main, to receipts for membership, as will be seen by the following statement:

Total received from Subscriptions for Membership	$8,390
" " " Exhibitions	2,500
" " " Cash donations	110
1,084 volumes of Books presented, valued at	1,000
Total	$12,000

Thus, as this table shows, the institution has created itself in the short space of seven months, with little extraneous assistance, and affording to all who have contributed to its establishment a fair return for their investments. We now ask of its friends and patrons, of all who are interested in the cause of popular education—nay, of the citizens at large of our great and growing city: shall this undertaking stop here, or shall it continue as it has begun, until it shall take rank among the largest and most popular of the great enterprises of the West?

A presentation of the objects of the Library, and of the aims which its Trustees have in view, may here not be amiss. It is not exclusively, nor even in the main, *a Library for children*. It has upon its shelves now, over 1,200 volumes of juvenile works, and it is the intention to make of this department a specialty, and to keep it supplied constantly with fresh books of instruction and amusement. Yet, as every thinking mind will readily admit, the amount of practical information drawn by children from the books they read is but a trifling benefit compared to those more enduring and important ones, a fondness for reading, and habits of study and thought which are begotten in their young minds by early and constant contact with a large collection of books. To create these habits and impress them so firmly that they will remain through after life, is the object which this Library proposes as regards those who are now children in our schools. But this desire for knowledge and for books, once awakened, must needs be gratified, and hence the necessity for supplying our shelves with all the most valuable works that treat upon the various subjects of human inquiry. Nothing short of a first-class reference library, where may be found whatever the best minds in all the earth have said upon every subject of knowledge, can satisfy those who, through many years of connection with our institution, have learned to value books as they deserve. It is such a Library that we are seeking to establish in St. Louis—a Library for its people and for its children—for all ages and sexes and turns of mind. Up to the present date its members, fully one-half of whom are of adult age, are almost exclusively those who have been connected with our Public Schools. To the large class of our citizens who have never held such connection, we are about to offer great inducements. Arrangements are now in progress and will be perfected, it is hoped, before this address issues from the press, to furnish our Reading Room with all the leading newspapers, magazines and reviews of our own country and Europe. To these and to our books,

we offer free access upon payment of the trifling fee of THREE DOLLARS annual subscription, or ONE DOLLAR for four months. Can any one hesitate to avail himself of advantages like these?

The number of children enrolled in our Public Schools during the scholastic year of 1865-6, amounts to over 16,000. Every one of these is eligible to life membership upon the easy terms provided in Section 32 of the By-Laws. It only needs that every one be constituted a life member, to yield the Library a fund of over $190,000, and place it at once on a par with the best Libraries in our land; and this can be accomplished, if parents will study the real interests of their children, and, by the insignificant expense of one dollar quarterly, for four years, secure to them the life-long benefits which the Library offers. To the parents and teachers of our future men and women, we, then, earnestly appeal, to advance the great cause of intellectual and moral education, and we trust to see yet achieved the brilliant results hinted at above, and dependent only on a little generous effort.

Our Schools contain a large number of highly meritorious pupils whom poverty debars from the privileges of the Library. Several of these have already been constituted life-members by means of money generously donated to the Library for that special use. Yet a large number remains, and we hope that our citizens will contribute liberally to decrease it.

Below are appended the names of those to whom the Library is indebted for gifts of money and of books. In our present condition, books of all classes (not pernicious in their character) are welcome, and are earnestly solicited. We trust to largely swell the list of our benefactors before their names shall again appear in print.

JAS. RICHARDSON, *President.*

JNO. JAY BAILEY, *Librarian.*

ST. LOUIS, *June* 1, 1866.

LIST OF BENEFACTORS:

Dr. J. S. B. ALLEYNE.
Prof. A. D. BACHE.
ROBERT C. BARNUM.
FREEMAN BARNUM.
ROBERT BARTH.
BELT & PRIEST.
FRANCIS BERG.
BOARD OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS.
F. I. A. BOOLE.
Miss A. C. BRACKETT.
G. BREMERMANN.
BREWER & TILESTON.
C. B. BURNHAM.
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Miss M. E. COOK.
Hon. D. N. COOLEY.
Hon. FELIX COSTE.
Gen. RICHARD DELAFIELD.
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Hon. C. D. DRAKE.
W. R. FISH.
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Capt. R. SANDS HART.
Prof. JOS. HENRY.
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Prof. GEO. H. HOWISON.
JAMESON & PUGH.
Hon. SAMUEL KNOX.
THEO. KROSCHEL.
W. H. MARKHAM.
E. L. MASSOT.
J. F. MIELERT.
R. H. MILLER & SONS.
GEO. MOORE.
W. J. RHEES.
ROBERTS BROS.
Hon. FRANCIS RODMAN.
LOUIS ROHRER.
EDW. S. ROWSE.
SCHERMERHORN, BANCROFT & CO.
Dr. I. SCHWARZ.
JAS. B. SICKLES.
SOL. SMITH.
ST. LOUIS MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.
R. P. STUDLEY & CO.
Prof. R. L. TAFEL.
Hon. T. C. THEAKER.
M. A. TODD.
J. L. TRACY.
JOHN WARDEN.
PHILIP WISSER.
J. G. YEATMAN.

CHARTER.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE A PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY SOCIETY IN THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

SECTION 1. That S. D. Barlow, Ira Divoll, C. F. Childs, and such other persons as may be associated with them in compliance with the conditions expressed in sections two and three of this Act, are hereby constituted a body politic and corporate by the name and style of the "PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY SOCIETY OF ST. LOUIS," and by that name they and their successors shall be known in law, have perpetual succession and a common seal, and may contract, be contracted with, sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, in any court of law or equity, and may purchase, receive and hold, alien and convey, any real or personal property, which may be given or dedicated to, or purchased by them, for the use of said Society.

SEC. 2. The object of said Society is declared to be the establishment and maintenance of a Public School Library and Lyceum, and all persons who have been heretofore, are now, or may be hereafter, directors, officers, teachers, or pupils of the St. Louis Public Schools, may become life members of said Library by paying to the Board of Trustees herein provided for the sum of *twelve dollars*. No other persons than those herein designated shall be eligible to life membership of said Library; but there may be *annual subscribers* to the same under such regulations as the Board of Trustees may determine.

SEC. 3. No persons except life members of said Library are entitled to become members of the Society hereby established. Directors, officers and teachers of the Public Schools, and all other adult persons, shall become members of said Society by virtue of their life membership of said Library; but the conditions on which pupils shall be entitled to membership of said Society shall be determined by the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 4. The powers of the Society hereby established shall be vested in a Board of sixteen Trustees, any nine of whom shall constitute a quorum to transact business. The President of the Board of Public Schools, the Superintendent of Public Schools, the Principal of the High School, and the Principal of the Normal School in St. Louis, and their successors, are hereby declared permanent members of the said Board of Trustees, by virtue of their respective offices. The remaining twelve members of said Board, six of whom may be females, shall be elected by said Society from their own members, for the term of three years, and until their successors shall be duly elected and qualified; and one-third of the number shall go out of office every year; and for that purpose the first Board shall cause its *elected* members to be divided by lot into three equal classes. The first class to go out of office at the end of one year, the second at the end of two, and the third at the end of three years. Any vacancy that may occur in this Board by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the Board itself.

SEC. 5. The President of the said Board of Public Schools shall be *ex-officio* President of the said Board of Trustees, and he is hereby authorized to open, or cause to be opened, a book of registry, wherein shall be recorded the names of all eligible persons who may desire to become members of said Society; and when fifty or more persons shall have thus

enrolled their names, he shall call them together at such time and place as he may designate, and when assembled they shall proceed to elect *twelve trustees*, who, when elected, shall be classified as directed in the foregoing section.

SEC. 6. The said Board of Trustees shall have power to appoint such officers and agents as may be necessary to accomplish the objects of the Society, and to prescribe their powers, duties and compensation, and to make and enforce all such rules, regulations and by-laws as may be required in the transaction of their business and the management of the said Library: *Provided*, that nothing therein contained shall be repugnant to the provisions of this act or the laws of the land.

SEC. 7. The said Board of Trustees shall have power to assess all life members of said Library any amount not exceeding three dollars *per annum;* but no such assessment shall be made without the concurrence of at least two-thirds of the members of said Board.

SEC. 8. The Board of St. Louis Public Schools are hereby authorized to appropriate out of their general fund a sum not exceeding five thousand dollars for the benefit of said Society, to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said Library; and they are further authorized to provide rooms for the accommodation of said Library.

SEC. 9. All property, both real and personal, belonging to said Society and used for the exclusive benefit and purpose of said Library, shall be exempt from all taxation of every nature and kind whatever.

SEC. 10. The corporation hereby established shall not be limited in its duration by anything contained in the first clause of the first section of the first article of "An Act Concerning Corporations," approved November 23d, 1855.

This act to take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

OFFICE SECRETARY OF STATE,
City of Jefferson, Mo.

I, FRANCIS RODMAN, Secretary of State, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and complete copy of an act entitled "An act to incorporate a Public School Library Society in the city of St. Louis," as appears from the original roll of said act now on file in this office.

[L.S.] In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal. Done at office, this 3d day of February, A. D. 1865.

FRANCIS RODMAN, *Secretary of State.*

REGULATIONS AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY SOCIETY

OF ST. LOUIS.

CHAPTER I.

Meetings of the Society.

SECTION 1. There shall be an annual meeting of the Library Society on the third Saturday in January of each year, at four o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing four trustees, receiving the report of the Board for the past year, and for the transaction of such other business as may be presented.

SEC. 2. The President of the Board of Trustees, at the request of said Board, or at the written request of twenty active members, stating reasons therefor, shall call a meeting of the Society for the transaction of special business, giving one week's public notice thereof.

CHAPTER II.

Officers of the Board, and their Duties.

SECTION 3. The Board of Trustees shall, at its first regular meeting after the annual meeting of the Society in January, or as soon thereafter as may be, elect by ballot a Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Librarian. The Vice President shall be selected from the members of the Board.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the President (who holds his office by virtue of being President of the Board of Public Schools), to preside at all meetings of the Board, preserve order, rigidly enforce the rules, sign all warrants drawn on the Treasurer, and all bonds, notes or agreements ordered to be executed by the Board, and to appoint all committees when not otherwise provided for.

SEC. 5. The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that officer.

SEC. 6. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate record of the transactions of the Board of Trustees and of the Society.

SEC. 7. The Treasurer shall receive all dues and donations of money, pay all drafts on him when signed by the President and countersigned by the Librarian, keep a regular account of the financial concerns of the Board, and shall make, during the first week in January of each year, a written report of the same to the President, whose duty it shall be to submit the same to the annual meeting of the Society. He shall give such security as the Board may approve in the sum of five thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties.

SEC. 8. The Librarian shall conform strictly to the By-Laws concerning the Library; and in addition to the duties therein mentioned, he shall receive all subscriptions and donations to the Library, and collect the fines which may be assessed upon members for detention, damage, or loss of books. He shall deposit with the Treasurer at least once every week all the moneys that may be received by him. He shall keep an accurate and detailed account of his transactions in books provided for that purpose, which shall at all

times be open to the inspection of any member of the Board. He shall be the custodian of the seal, of the Library tickets, and of the certificates of membership. He shall give such security as the Board may approve in the sum of one thousand dollars for the faithful performance of his duties and the safe keeping of all property intrusted to his care. The Librarian shall also be *ex-officio* Corresponding Secretary.

CHAPTER III.

Committees and their Duties.

SECTION 9. At the first regular meeting after the election of trustees in January, or as soon thereafter as may be, the Board shall elect the following *standing* committees, viz:

I. *The Executive Committee,* consisting of five members of the Board. II. *The Library Committee*, consisting of five members of the Board. III. *The Lecture Committee*, consisting of five members of the Board. IV. *The Auxiliary Committee*, consisting of twenty members of the Society, two from each Ward.

The Executive Committee and the Library Committee shall be elected by ballot, and the President shall be *ex-officio* a member of each.

SEC. 10. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to solicit subscriptions and donations to the Library; to examine from time to time into the finances of the Board; to see that all dues be paid; to take into consideration any reports or propositions relating to the treasury, and to suggest such plans for enhancing the interests of the Society as they may deem proper; and make a detailed report of the financial condition of the Library once a quarter, at the regular meetings in January, April, July and October of each year. No claim of any amount for money from the funds of the Society, except in case of contracts expressly made or provided for by the Board, shall be paid or settled until the same has been examined by this committee and submitted to the Board for its action thereon.

SEC. 11. It shall be the duty of the Library Committee to exercise general supervision over the Library and see that the books are properly catalogued and arranged; to prepare, in conjunction with the Librarian, a list of works recommended by them as suitable for purchase; and to take into consideration and report upon such other matters as may be referred to them by the Board.

SEC. 12. It shall be the duty of the Lecture Committee to make all necessary arrangements for the delivery of suitable courses of lectures; to correspond with and secure the services of eminent lecturers; but no decisive engagements shall be entered into by them without special authority from the Board.

SEC. 13. It shall be the duty of the Auxiliary Committee to co-operate with and aid the Executive Committee and the Librarian in soliciting subscriptions and donations to the Library, and to make reports from time to time to the Board of Trustees.

CHAPTER IV.

Meetings of the Board and Rules of Order.

SECTION 14. The stated meetings of the Board of Trustees shall be held at the rooms of the Society, or such other place as shall be from time to time designated, on the second Saturday in each month, at four o'clock P. M.

SEC. 15. The President or any three members of the Board may call special meetings by giving three days' notice in writing to the other members of the Board. A majority of the whole number shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day.

SEC. 16. The President shall take the chair at the appointed hour and call the members to order, and the Secretary shall call the roll, noting the absent members, and read the minutes of the last meeting.

SEC. 17. No motion shall be subject to debate until it has been seconded and stated by the chair. It shall be reduced to writing at the request of the President or any other member.

SEC. 18. When a question is before the Board, no motion shall be received except to

adjourn, to lay on the table, the previous question, to refer, to postpone indefinitely, to postpone to a certain time, or to amend; and the motions named shall take precedence in the order here arranged—the first, second and third shall be decided without debate.

Sec. 19. A motion for amendment, until decided, shall preclude further amendment of the main question.

Sec. 20. No motion or proposition shall be admitted as a substitute for the motion or resolution under debate. Any member, however, may call for a division of the question, when the same, in the opinion of the President, admits of it.

Sec. 21. On the call of two members, a majority of the Board may demand that the previous question shall be put, which shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" and, until it is decided, no further debate shall take place, and the vote shall be taken, first on any amendments that may be pending, and next, on the final question.

Sec. 22. The President shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Board by any member. In such cases the question shall be: "Shall the decision of the chair be sustained?" and, until it is decided, all debate upon the pending question shall be suspended.

Sec. 23. The reconsideration of a question may be moved by any member who voted with the majority, but such motion shall be decided at the same or next regular meeting.

Sec. 24. Every member present shall vote on all questions, unless excused by the Board.

Sec. 25. The yeas and nays shall be called and entered on the record, whenever demanded by two members of the Board.

Sec. 26. No member shall be allowed to give his vote on any question after the result has been announced by the chair, unless by unanimous consent.

Sec. 27. When any member is about to speak on any question, he shall rise and address himself to the President, confine himself strictly to the point in debate, and avoid personalities.

Sec. 28. No member shall speak more than five minutes at any one time, on any motion under dicussion, nor more than once until all other members choosing to speak shall have spoken, nor more than twice to the same question, without consent of the Board.

Sec. 29. No member shall be interrupted whilst speaking, unless by a call to order, or to correct mistakes. If a member be called to order, he shall immediately take his seat until the point is decided by the chair.

Sec. 30. No member shall leave the Board before the close of the session, without permission of the President.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Sec. 31. The regular order of business of this Board shall be as follows:

I. Calling the Roll.
II. Reading Minutes of previous meeting.
III. Reading Communications.
IV. Election of Officers, Committees, or Members, whenever vacancies exist.
V. Report of Executive Committee.
VI. Report of Library Committee.
VII. Report of Lecture Committee.
VIII. Report of Auxiliary Committee.
IX. Report of Treasurer.
X. Report of Librarian.
XI. Reports of Special Committees.
XII. Unfinished Business.
XIII. New Business.

CHAPTER V.

Conditions of Membership and Subscription.

Section 32. Any person who has been connected with the St. Louis Public Schools in the capacity of officer, director, teacher or pupil, may become a life member of the Library

Society by paying the sum of twelve dollars. This amount may be paid at one time, or in annual payments of four dollars each, or in quarterly payments of one dollar each, and the Librarian is authorized to issue tickets as evidence of the partial payments. The ticket given for the one dollar payment shall entitle the holder to three months' use of the Library from the time of its date, and when twelve such tickets shall at any time be presented to the Librarian, he shall issue in return for them a life-membership certificate; *provided*, the applicant be eligible thereto. Every life member of the Library Society shall receive a certificate of life membership signed by the President, Secretary, and Librarian, with the seal of the corporation affixed.

Sec. 33. Any person not eligible to life membership who may pay a sum not less than twenty-five dollars, or who may donate rare and valuable works, or new publications, or other property valued at not less than twenty-five dollars (if the same be accepted by the Board), shall be constituted an *honorary member* of the Library Society, and shall be entitled to all the privileges of regular membership except the right to vote and hold office, and shall receive, as evidence thereof, a certificate properly attested by the officers of the Board.

Sec. 34. The terms of annual subscription, for all persons, shall be at the rate of three dollars *per annum*, payable in advance.

Sec. 35. All subscribers, life members, and honorary members shall, in the use of the Library, be subject to the provisions and restrictions of the Charter and By-Laws.

CHAPTER VI.

Donations.

Section 36. Any person disposed to aid the youth of the city in establishing the Public School Library, who may donate a sum not less than five hundred dollars, may designate what department of the Library, or what books, he wishes to supply, and if the donation be accepted, the conditions stipulated shall be carried out, and such books shall bear upon their labels the name of the donor.

CHAPTER VII.

Miscellaneous.

Section 37. No person shall be an active member of the Society, that is, entitled to vote and hold office, who has not attained the age of eighteen years.

Sec. 38. The seal of the corporation shall have the following inscription: "Public School Library Society, St. Louis, 1865."

Sec. 39. In case of flagrant official or personal misconduct, the Board of Trustees shall have power, by a vote of two-thirds of its members, to expel a member of the Board or of the Society, from which decision an appeal shall be allowed to a called meeting of the Society.

Sec. 40. The tax mentioned in the seventh section of the Charter shall be construed to apply only to resident life members who may make use of the Library during the year for which the tax may be levied; and the non-payment of the same when levied shall deprive the delinquent of all the privileges of the Society and Library. Said tax shall not be levied upon any life member until the expiration of three years from the date of his certificate.

Sec. 41. The non-attendance of any member for two consecutive regular meetings, of which the usual notice has been served upon him, may be construed by the Board as a resignation of his seat, unless he is prevented from attending by sickness, or absence from the city, or for a reason satisfactory to the Board.

Sec. 42. None of these Regulations and By-Laws can be repealed or altered unless a two-thirds majority of all the Trustees vote for the repeal or alteration; nor unless upon motion made in writing for that purpose at a previous meeting of the Board; but any rule may be dispensed with for a particular occasion, on the concurrence of two-thirds of all the members present.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARY

AND READING ROOM.

ARTICLE 1. The Library shall be open on all secular days throughout the year, except on Christmas, New Year's Day, the Fourth of July, and Thanksgiving Day, from 10 o'clock A. M. until 10 o'clock P. M.: *provided always*, that the President may direct the Library to be closed for a part, or the whole, of any one day, reporting the fact, and his reasons for it, to the Trustees, at their next meeting.

ARTICLE 2. The Librarian shall register, in a book to be called the "Issue Ledger," the names of all the members of the Society, with their places of business or of residence, and shall keep in such book a strict account of all sums paid by each member for subscription; of all dues and forfeitures incurred through undue detention, loss or injury of books; as well as enter therein the catalogue number of every book taken out by each member, with the date at which it was taken and that of its return.

ARTICLE 3. The Librarian shall furnish to every member of the Society a card bearing the name of such member, and the number of the page of said Issue Ledger at which the account of such member is opened; nor shall the Librarian issue to any member a book to be taken out of the Library, nor receive any book in return, except on presentation of such card.

ARTICLE 4. Members may consult, within the Library, any number of volumes, the same being charged to them upon a book to be kept for that purpose and canceled when returned by them to the Librarian.

ARTICLE 5. The book-cases of the Library shall be kept locked, and it shall be the duty of the Librarian to furnish to members, upon their applying to him, whatever books they may wish to use: *provided, however,* that the Librarian shall have, and he is hereby required to exert, a discretionary power, especially in the case of very young persons, as to withholding from free and unlimited use, such books as from their value, rarity, or character, are unsuited for general circulation.

ARTICLE 6. Encyclopedias, dictionaries and atlases shall in no case be taken out of the Library. Periodicals and pamphlets, until bound into volumes, and such other books as the Board may, from time to time, designate, shall not be taken out of the Library, except by special permission of the Librarian, approved by the President of the Board, expressed in writing, and stating the length of time which such pamphlet or book may be kept out.

ARTICLE 7. Members shall not take out of the Library, at one time, more than one book; *provided, however,* that of works or sets in more volumes than one there may be taken out as follows: Of folios, one volume; of quartos, two volumes; of octavos, three volumes; of duodecimos and smaller works, four volumes.

ARTICLE 8. Books taken out of the Library in accordance with the provisions of Article 7, may be detained as follows: Folios and quartos, four weeks; octavos, three weeks; duodecimos and smaller books, two weeks; the length of time allowed for detention of a book being the same whether one or more volumes be taken: *provided, always,* that any book may be borrowed twice by the same person, but not more than twice until it shall have been returned to the Library, and shall have remained there one full library day.

ARTICLE 9. Any member who shall detain a book longer than as allowed by the provisions of Article 8, shall be fined by the Librarian, *for each volume* so detained, four cents

for each day of such undue detention if the book be a folio or quarto; three cents, if an octavo; two cents, if a duodecimo or smaller book.

Article 10. If any member lose a book, he must immediately replace it, or pay to the Librarian its full value; nor shall he be entitled to take out any other book until that which is lost shall have been replaced or paid for. If the book be one of a set, he shall replace or pay for the whole set, and may receive the other volumes as his property so soon as another set shall have been obtained to take the place of that which had been rendered imperfect.

Article 11. If any member injure or deface a book, or suffer it to be injured or defaced while in his possession, by tearing or turning down its leaves, writing in it, or otherwise, beyond a reasonable wear, he may, at the discretion of the Librarian, be fined not more than the full value of the book injured, or may be required to pay for the whole set to which it may belong, as provided in the case of books lost, Article 10.

Article 12. Any person, not a resident of the city, may obtain the privileges of the Library for a period of four weeks, upon being introduced by a member of the Library: *provided*, that no books shall be taken out of the Library by non-residents, except as provided in Article 13, below.

Article 13. Non-residents and others, not members of the Society, may take books out of the Library upon depositing with the Librarian the full value of the books taken, or of the set to which they belong, for which deposit a receipt shall be given. Persons so drawing books must comply with the provisions of Articles 8, 9, 10 and 11. Upon their returning the books and the receipt, the sum deposited shall be repaid to them, after deducting any fines that may have been incurred for injury or undue detention of the books, and, also, after deducting therefrom twenty-five cents for each week or part of a week that each volume shall have been kept out.

Article 14. Members and others are particularly requested to enter in a book which shall be kept for that purpose, the title of any book not in the Library, which they may desire to use, or may deem deserving of a place on the shelves.

Article 15. At the beginning of each quarter of the year, the Librarian shall ascertain by an examination of the Issue Ledger, what books, if any, are being kept out beyond time, and shall take means to insure their return, the delinquent members being chargeable with all expenses incurred therein.

Article 16. Once in five years the Library shall be closed for the purpose of making a thorough examination of all the books, with a view to ascertaining what books, if any, are lost; and the Board of Trustees may then direct that all books shall be returned to the Library, assessing a fine of one dollar upon every book not returned; but reasonable notice of the time at which their return is required shall be given in at least two of the leading newspapers of the city.

Article 17. Once a year the Board may direct the Library to be closed, for a period not longer than three days, for the purpose of cleaning the room, and correcting any mistakes that may have occurred in the Issue Ledger or other books of issue.

Article 18. Smoking in the Library Rooms is forbidden. No male person shall remain in the Library or Reading Room with his hat on, nor put his feet upon the tables, chairs, benches, or other furniture; nor shall any loud or boisterous conversation be carried on in the Library Room. All conversation in the Reading Room is strictly forbidden.

Article 19. Residents of the city, not members of the Library, shall not be entitled to the use of the Library Room, or its books.

Article 20. Members of the Library shall not be entitled to any of its benefits so long as any dues or forfeitures incurred by them remain unpaid.

Article 21. Any person abusing the privileges of the Library by unbecoming conduct, or the violation of any of its regulations; by intentional defacement of a book by writing in it or otherwise, shall be immediately reported to the Trustees, who may exclude such person for a time, or permanently—declaring such person's membership forfeited, according to the nature of the delinquency or default.

Article 22. Any or all of these Regulations may be altered or set aside by a majority of the whole Board of Trustees at any regular meeting, or at any special meeting called for the purpose.

SYSTEMATIC INDEX.

EDUCATIONAL WORKS.

School Documents, Art of Instruction, etc.

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Common-School Journal. Edited by Horace Mann. Vols. 1 to 11.
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History and Progress of Education. By Philobiblius.
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Massachusetts Teachers' Association. Transactions, 1845 to 1847.
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Theory of Teaching. By a Teacher.

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SUNDAY MAGAZINE, The. For 1865.
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Oration on Washington.
WHITMAN, WALT. Leaves of Grass.
WILLIS, N. P. Miscellaneous Writings:
Hurry-Graphs.
The Rag-Bag.
Rural Letters.
Fun-Jottings.
The Convalescent.
Famous Persons and Places.
Paul Fane.
WILSON, JOHN. Recreations of Christopher North. M. B. E.
WILSON, JOHN, and others. Noctes Ambrosianæ. 5 vols.
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WINTHROP, THEO. Life in the Open Air.
WIRT, WM. Letters of the British Spy.
WOODS, LEONARD, D. D. Works of.

CATALOGUE

OF THE

Blackstone Library Association.

ORGANIZED OCT. 4, 1855.

LIBRARY ROOM IN BLACKSTONE BLOCK.

"Hoc opus, hoc studium, parvi properemus, et ampli."

"Utilia Fideliter Excerpendum."

WOONSOCKET:
S. S. FOSS, PRINTER, PATRIOT OFFICE.
1856.

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INTRODUCTION.

For several years past, the project of establishing a public library in this village has been contemplated, without, however, any definite action being taken upon the subject. The usual difficulties of awakening an interest in the community, and the doubts entertained by many of the success of the enterprise to any considerable degree, operated hitherto to prevent all effort. So laudable a purpose, however, of which the almost imperative necessity was found in the actual wants of the reading portion of the community, was not always to be permitted to slumber.

On the fourth of October, 1855, a few individuals determined to move in the matter, in a manner at least to merit success; met, pursuant to notice, and effected an organization.

Unlike many similar institutions at the starting point, they were destitute of means, and had no large donations of money or books upon which to base their hopes, and aid them in their undertaking. They were to depend entirely upon their own resources and such means as they could best devise for promoting the object in view.

The first public move was a Tea Party, got up by the ladies of the Association and held for two evenings, the

result of which was highly successful and enabled the members to make the first purchase of books. This proved a stimulus to those engaged in the enterprise, and added new zeal to their labors.

During the winter two dramatic exhibitions were given by members of the Association, which also proved successful. Contributions in various amounts, both in books and money, were made by a number of members of the institution, and all have co-operated with much sacrifice of time and labor, in the endeavor to accomplish the object in view. It would seem invidious to make distinctions where all have labored in various degrees, and according to their abilities and means.

Great praise is due to the ladies of the Association, for the untiring perseverance which they have manifested in this cause. The institution has prospered beyond all our expectations, and no small share of the success may justly be attributed to their efforts. The influence of woman on such occasions needs no eulogy.

> " As unto the bow the cord is,
> So unto the man is woman,
> Though she bends him, she obeys him,
> Though she draws him, yet she follows,
> Useless each without the other !"

The social meetings which have been held once in two weeks during the winter, at the various residences of the members alternately, have formed a peculiar and interesting feature, in which all have participated with a lively interest. These meetings have formed an appropriate sphere for consultations and discussions upon literary matters, and have served to keep the subject of the Library steadily before the members.

The Association acknowledge with great pleasure, donations from various eminent individuals. In this connexion among those whom this Association will hold in lasting remembrance, may be mentioned names no less

distinguished, than the Hon. Edward Everett, Hon. George Bancroft, Rev. Jared Sparks, Prof. H. W. Longfellow, and others.

It is with feelings of just pride that we are enabled to mention these names in connection with this institution, and the interest which they manifested in its progress exerted a deep influence in encouraging the members to increased action. Their donations are beyond price, and their correspondence cheered us in our course.

Donations have also been gratefully received from Phillips, Sampson & Co., Little, Brown & Co., W. D. Ticknor & Co., Burnham & Brothers, all of Boston. Also from Newton Carpenter, Esq. N. Y.; Edward Harris, Esq. of Woonsocket, and Mrs. John Davis, of Worcester; and during the present week a valuable donation of books has been received from Rev. Theodore Parker of Boston.

In establishing a public Library in this place, great pains have been taken in the selection of the works. The aim has been, as far as came within our means, to procure the standard works of foreign and American authors. With less care in the selections, double the number of books might have been procured, with the same amount of money. The Association has proceeded upon the principle that the value of a library depends upon the *character* of the works which it contains, rather than the number. In carrying out this principle this Catalogue will show to what extent they have been successful.

Only a few months from the time of organization, the Library now contains over 1000 volumes, with means already in prospect for increasing it to a considerable amount. It is open free to all persons not members, on the payment of the small sum per year of two dollars for [illegible]eman and one dollar for a lady.

a para[illegible]great advantage of the establishment of this in-

stitution is already becoming visible in this community. The books are read, and one of the most important means of improvement that we know of is that of intercourse with superior minds. It is as needful to us as the food we eat, or the air we breathe. A child if deprived of this influence and left to itself, in the developement of its powers, would hardly rise above the brute creation. So a man whose habits never bring him into contact with minds superior to his own, will run one and the same dull round of thought and action throughout the whole period of his life. It is chiefly through books that we enjoy this intercourse, and these invaluable means of communication should be within the reach of all.

Dr. Channing remarks, in his valuable essay on self-culture, "God be thanked for books; they give to all who faithfully use them the society and the presence of the greatest and best of our race. No matter how poor I am, no matter though the prosperous of my own time will not enter my obscure dwelling: If the sacred writers will enter and take up their abode under my roof, if Milton will cross my threshold to sing to me of paradise, and Shakspeare to open to me the worlds of imagination and the workings of the human heart, and Franklin to enrich me with his practical wisdom, I shall never pine for want of intellectual companionship. Nothing can supply the place of books; the wealth of both continents could not compensate for the good they impart."

Edward Everett says, "give me these means of communication and I will not exchange the thirstiest sands, nor the barest peak, for the most fertile spot on earth deprived of these blessings. With these I had rather occupy the bleakest nook of the mountain that towers above us, with the wild wolf and the rattle-snake for my nearest neighbors, than without them to dwell in [illegible] a gentle dise of fertility."

One

But we need not quote a
fluence of good books, for it mu
they are one of the principal sou
man who can read and likes to read
entertainment; time will never hang he
On the contrary, he will be glad when
is over, that he may return to his favorit
man who has gained a taste for books, will
hood become thoughtful. He will grow inte
absorbed in the occupation. Instead of spe
time idly, he will prefer to study and reflect alone

He will delight to ponder over the best masters,
who have entered deeply into the philosophy of thi
and ranged widely in every department of knowledg
From such sources new trains of thought will arise, and
new fields of contemplation open before him, and thus
will the great end and aim of existence be subserved, by
the discipline and improvement of his own mind.

If the benefits flowing from this institution shall be wide-spread and deeply felt in this community, if information shall be imparted by it, and the great purposes of education promoted, then will have been realized the highest hopes of the founders of the BLACKSTONE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Blackstone, May, 1856.

CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

The development of the human mind is a work of paramount importance:—An enlightened community is the home of peace and happiness. The cultivation of the intellectual faculties requires action and perseverance.

To develope the mind, to cultivate the intellect, to disseminate knowledge, should be the high aim of those who regard the best interests of society. These ends can in a measure be attained by individual effort, and more effectually by an association of minds by means of which, each can reciprocally receive and impart, and all can derive benefit from the action of the whole. Knowledge is derived from books and the instruction of others, as well as from thought and observation; and in an association that has for its object literary attainment, a library, and lectures are important requisites.

We, therefore, whose signatures are hereunto annexed, form ourselves into an Association for the promotion of literature and knowledge among ourselves; and, we severally agree and mutually pledge ourselves to abide by the following

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This organization shall be known and recognized by the name of THE BLACKSTONE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, five Vice Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, a Librarian, and an Executive Committee consisting of five.

ART. 3. The officers shall be elected annually, in such manner as the Association shall prescribe, and shall hold their respective offices until others are elected.

ART. 4. It shall be the duty of the President to call to order the meetings of the Association, preside over the same, call special meetings as hereinafter provided, and perform all other duties, usually incumbent on such officer.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents to assist the President in the discharge of his official duties, attend to the due preparation of the places selected for the meetings of the Association; and in case of the absence of the President, they shall, according to their respective numbers, perform all the duties of that office.

ART. 6. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep in a book of records a correct record of the Constitution and By-Laws, the names of the members and officers of the Association, the proceedings of each meeting, and the Treasurer's report as hereinafter provided. His book of records shall be open to the inspection of the officers and members of the Association, and he shall report to the Association whenever thereunto requested; and in the absence of the Corresponding Secretary, he shall perform all the duties pertaining to that office.

ART. 7. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to perform all the correspondence of the Association; he shall keep on file for future reference all letters of business belonging to the Association, and perform all the duties usually incumbent upon a Corre-

sponding Secretary; and in the absence of the Recording Secretary, perform the duties of that office.

ART. 8. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and preserve all moneys or funds belonging to the Association, subject always to the order of the Executive Committee, and he shall answer all orders made upon the Treasury by said Committee, or which shall have been approved by them, provided there shall be funds sufficient in his hands. He shall keep a correct account of all receipts and disbursements, and shall report the same to the Recording Secretary in writing on the first or second day of each month, (which report shall be kept on record as herein before provided,) and shall at all times hold himself in readiness to report the state of the finances to the Executive Committee, when thereunto by them requested.

ART. 9. It shall be the duty of the Librarian to keep and preserve in good order and condition all books belonging to the Library of the Association, and see that the rules and regulations concerning the Library are strictly observed. He shall keep a correct record, (in a book for that purpose,) of the names of those entitled to the use of the Library, the name of each person taking a book therefrom, the book taken, the date of its being taken, and the date of its return.

ART. 10. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to regulate the admission of members as hereinafter provided, procure places for the meetings of the Association, direct the President to call special meetings whenever in their judgment the interests of the Association require it, (and it shall be the duty of the President to call such meetings as herein before provided,) procure speakers and lecturers, purchase books for the Library, make occasional examinations of the same, and assess damages on them when injured, make drafts on

the Treasury for the purposes of the Association, approve, in their discretion, bills or orders drawn on the Treasury by others, and to exercise a general oversight over the Association, and guard well its best interests.

ART. 11. All moneys paid out by an officer of the Association in the discharge of his official duties, shall be repaid to him, and he may draw on the Treasury for that purpose, subject, (as shall all orders or drafts be,) to the approval of the Executive Committee.

ART. 12. All moneys, goods, funds, books, papers, documents, and all other property whatsoever placed in the hands of its officers, shall be considered and held by them as the property of the Association, and each officer shall, at the expiration of his term of office, deliver to his successor in office, all books, papers, moneys and all other things whatsoever belonging to the Association in their hands.

ART. 13 The regular meetings of the Association shall be held once in every two weeks: *Provided, however,* that the Association may adjourn to any time not exceeding three months, and special meetings may be called as hereinbefore provided; and, an adjournment without date shall be considered an adjournment for two weeks only.

ART. 14. The time for electing of officers shall be the first regular meeting in October of each year, and in case of a failure to elect at that meeting, it may be done at an adjourned meeting; and any vacancy occurring before the first regular meeting in October, may be filled by the Association.

ART. 15. The Association may, from time to time, adopt such by-laws, not repugnant or inconsistent with the Constitution, as two-thirds of *the members present* at a regular meeting may deem expedient: *Provided, always,* that the drafting of such by-laws shall be referred to the

Executive Committee, reported to the Association by said Committee, and once laid upon the table, before being acted upon.

Art. 16. All by-laws, orders, proposals, or matters before the Association, which shall be laid upon the table, shall regularly come up in order to be acted upon at the next regular meeting.

Art. 17. The exercises of the meetings of the Association shall consist of Lectures, Essays, Dissertations, Discussions, Readings—either in original or selected pieces—Social Conversations, Business pertaining to the Association, and such other exercises as the Association may prescribe.

Art. 18. All games of chance and frivolus plays shall be entirely excluded from the meetings of the Association.

Art. 19. No person shall become a member of this Association unless his or her name shall first be proposed in writing to the President, and passed over to the Executive Committee, receive the approval of the said Committee, and be reported by them to the Association as approved, receive a two-thirds vote of the members present, nor unless he or she shall sign the Constitution, and pay the initiating fee hereinafter prescribed. The vote for admission of members shall not be taken until the next regular meeting after having been proposed, nor until the Executive Committee shall have reported favorably,—and said Committee shall have such time to consider upon the names referred to them, as they may deem expedient—and the vote for admission of members shall be had by ballot.

Art. 20. Every gentleman shall, on becoming a member of this Association, and before his membership shall be allowed, pay into the treasury the sum of five dollars, and every lady shall likewise pay the sum of three dollars.

ART. 21. Any gentleman by the payment of two dollars, and any lady by the payment of one dollar in advance into the Treasury of this Association, shall, with the consent of the Executive Committee, be considered a member for one year, entitled only to the use of the Library, subject to the by-laws, rules and regulations.

ART. 22. The Association shall have power to tax its members in such sums as shall be requisite to defray the necessary expenses of the Association—provided that said tax shall first be assessed by the Executive Committee, and the proposal to levy it be once laid upon the table; and no member from whom a tax is due, shall be entitled to the use of the Library.

ART. 23. Any member shall be liable to be reprimanded, reproved, fined or expelled from the Association, for acts derogatory to the interests and reputation of the Association, or for working against its interests, or for disobeying or refusing to comply with the Constitution, By-Laws, or Rules and Regulations of the Association, but no member shall either be reprimanded, reproved, fined or expelled, unless specific charges be first preferred against him and he be allowed a fair and impartial hearing before the Executive Committee. And it shall be the duty of said Committee to try said person—whenever he may demand such hearing—upon the charges preferred as aforesaid, fairly and impartially, and report the result of their deliberations in writing to the Association, and they may in said report, exonerate, commend, reprimand, reprove, or recommend fine or expulsion, as to them shall seem just to the rights of the individual and the interests of the Association; and no member shall be fined or expelled unless it be done by a majority vote by ballot, of the members present, after said report shall have been once laid upon the table.

ART. 24. All questions arising upon the construction

of the Constitution and By-Laws, or any part there and all questions touching the interests of the Association, not otherwise provided for, shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

ART. 25. Any article of the Constitution or section of the By-Laws, may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association; provided that the proposal or motion to alter or amend, first come from the Executive Committee, and be once laid upon the table.

BY-LAWS.

CHAPTER I.

OF THE LIBRARY.

SECTION 1. Every member of the Associa[tion] shall have free use of the Library, unless otherwise pr[o]vided by the constitution, subject to the regulations herein[after] made.

SEC. 2. Every person taking a book from the Libra[ry] shall be held responsible, in damages for its safe return, and for all damage done to it while in his or her care.

SEC. 3. No person shall take from the Library more than one book at one time, or keep the same without return more than two weeks; and any person who shall keep a book longer, shall pay a fine of five cents for each day the book shall have been kept over two weeks.

SEC. 4. All books shall be returned to the Library on the first Wednesday of January, April, July and October, and shall there remain two days, when they shall be examined and damages assessed by the Executive Committee; and any person having a book, who shall not return the same on or before each of the days aforesaid, shall pay a fine of fifty cents.

SEC. 5. Any person who shall take a book from the Library and loan the same to any person not a member of the Association, shall pay a fine of fifty cents for each loan thus made.

SEC. 6. No person from whom damage or a fine is due, shall take a book from the Library.

SEC. 7. No book shall be allowed to go from the Library until there shall be durably fastened upon the inside of the cover, or upon a blank leaf, the name of the Association and the number of the book, (or if presented, when and by whom) and an extract from the By-Laws containing Sections 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this chapter.

SEC. 8. The Librarian shall examine each book when returned, and if it has been damaged since it was last taken from the Library, he shall make a note of the fact and the name of the person having the book, and report the fact and name to the Executive Committee when they shall examine the Library, or assess damages as hereinbefore provided.

SEC. 9. If from any cause, the name of the Blackstone Library Association shall be changed, or if the members find themselves unable to continue in existence according to the terms of their association, and the principles upon which the institution was organized, or should they find it expedient to disband, or to unite with any other corporation or institution whatever, then all donations made to this Association previous or subsequent to the passage of this By-Law, shall no longer be held as the property of the Association, but shall be delivered up on their claim to the original donors.

CHAPTER II.

OF THE MEETINGS AND LECTURES.

SECTION 1. Every member of the Association shall be entitled to the privileges of the meetings, subject to the regulations hereafter made.

SEC. 2. No person shall be allowed admission to the Lectures without a card, or without paying the admission fee fixed upon for the occasion.

SEC. 3. No person unless a member of this Association shall be allowed to enter a meeting of the Associa-

tion, except when such meeting is made public and the admission fee has been paid.

Sec. 4. Section three of this chapter shall not be so construed, as to deprive any person who stands as a duly elected member from coming in, once for the purpose of signing the Constitution and paying the initiatory fee, nor to prevent any member from asking in with him or her any friend, not a resident of the town of Blackstone.

CHAPTER III.

OF THE MEMBERS AND PERSONS PROPOSED.

Section 1. If any person who has been, or who hereafter shall be, duly proposed and elected a member of this Association, shall for the term of four weeks after being thus elected, refuse or neglect to become *bona fide* a member by signing the Constitution and paying the initiatory fee prescribed, he shall not longer be entitled to membership, and his name shall be treated the same as though no action whatever had been had thereon.

Sec. 2. Section one of this chapter shall be so construed that those who have already been elected, and have not joined, can do so at any time within four weeks of this date, October 18th, A. D. 1855, and not afterwards, unless again proposed and elected.

N. B.—Members of the Association living out of the village, can be accommodated with books any day of the week (Sunday excepted) by calling upon the Librarian.

CATALOGUE.

BOOKS OF REFERENCE.

1	Ree's	Encyclopædia,	A—ABZ.
2	"	"	AMA—ARK.
3	"	"	ART—BAR.
4	"	"	BAR—BLA.
5	"	"	BLA—BUN.
6	"	"	BUN—CAP.
7	"	"	CAP—CHA.
8	"	"	CHA—CLA.
9	"	"	CLA—CON.
10	"	"	CON—CRA.
11	"	"	CRA—DEG.
12	"	"	DEG—DUC.
13	"	"	DUC—EPI.
14	"	"	EPI—FEN.
15	"	"	FEN—FRE.
16	"	"	FRE—GIB.
17	"	"	GIB—GYP.
18	"	"	GYP—HOO.
19	"	"	HOO—INS.
20	"	"	INS—KZY.
21	"	"	LAB—LIN.
22	"	"	LIN—MAG.
23	"	"	MAG—MBO.
24	"	"	MEA—MON.
25	"	"	MON—NEW.
26	"	"	NEW—OXF.
27	"	"	OXF—PER.
28	"	"	PER—PLA.
29	"	"	PLA—PRO.

0 Rec's Encyclopædia, PRO—PREF.
31 " " PREF—PROS.
32 " " PROS—SAT.
33 " " SAT SHE.
34 " " SHE—SPA.
35 " " SPA—STU.
36 " " STU—TES.
37 " " TES—TRO.
38 " " TRO—VIT.
39 " " VIT—WAT.
40 " " WAT—YAM.
41 " " YAM—ZOL.
42 " " PLATES.
43 " " "
44 " " "
45 " " "
46 " " "
47 " " "
48 Census United States, 1850.
102 Patent Office Report, 1853.
119 Statistical View of the United States.
122 American Encyclopædia, AB—BAT.
123 " " BAT—CAT.
124 " " CAT—CRA.
125 " " CRA—EVE.
126 " " EVE—GRE.
127 " " GRE—IND.
128 " " IND—LIN.
129 " " LIN—MON.
130 " " MON—PEL.
131 " " PEN—REU.
132 " " REV—STE.
133 " " STE—VIS.
134 " " VIS—ZWI.
135 " " APPENDIX.
139 Grecian and Roman Mythology.
187 Home Cyclopædia.
306 Constitution of the United States.
312 Heyward's Gazeteer.
437 Library of Entertaining Knowledge.
520 Patent Office Report, 1847.
576 Calmet's Bible Dictionary.
579 Massachusetts Historical Collection.
597 Adams' View of Religions.
598 Geology and Topography of Lake Superior Land District.
599 The Daguerreotype.
718 Man of Business.
735 American Scenes.
864 Annual of Scientific Discovery.

927 Roman Antiquities and Mythology.
987 Statistics of Woolen Manufactures.
988 Patent Office Report, 1853.
989 Massachusetts Register, 1853.
990 Transactions of the Massachusetts Agricultural Society.
992 Commerce and Navigation.
993 Angell on Water Courses.
994 Crystal Palace.
995 Geological Survey of Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota.
996 Philadelphia in 1811 and 1823.
1028 Webster's Dictionary, Unabridged.

RELIGIOUS.

92 Philadelphia Evidences of Christianity.
118 Freedom of the Will, by J. Edwards.
185 Regeneration, by Sears.
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751 The May-Flower.
755 Vicar of Wakefield.
756 Caste.
757 Atherton.
758 Ruth.
759 Wolfsden.
766 Two Christmas Days.
870 Miss Bremer's Works.
876 Alton Locke, Tailor and Poet.
886 Mr. Rutherford's Children.
887 " " "
626 A Christmas Box.
954 Riches Without Wings.
967 Right.
970 Fireside Fairies.
973 Youths' Keepsake.
977 Flowers for Children.
985 Tales of Hungary.
997 Frank, by Mrs. Edgworth.
1000 Falkenburg.
1001 Gertrude.